EARTH FIRST!

BRIGID EDITION

February 2, 1988 Vol. VIII, No. III

THE *RADICAL* ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL TWO DOLLARS

STOP THE FOREST SERVICE!

by Howie Wolke

The U.S. Forest Service. To the uninitiated, the name conjures up romantic images of diligent rangers roaming and protecting the woods they love. The Forest Service. To the unknowing, the image is that of a benevolent bureaucracy protecting wilderness and replacing the "rape and ruin" logging of the past with enlightened conservation. The Forest Service. It was their men of yesteryear — Aldo Leopold and Bob Marshall — who above all others invented what has become today's National Wilderness System. The Forest Service. Shielded by the myth of stewardship, the illusion of competence, and the lie of alleged ecological responsibility.

Fantasy aside, the US Forest Service is an outlaw bureaucracy, dedicated primarily to self-perpetuation. It is in cahoots with loggers, oilmen, ranchers, resort owners, ORVers, and nearly anyone bent upon destructive exploitation of our 190 million acre National Forest System.

In the United States of America today, the agency is the primary force behind the destruction of wilderness ecosystems and healthy habitat in general. The Forest Service is the epitome of all that is wrong with bureaucracy, from the Bureau of Reclamation to the Kremlin. The "Freddies" (Forest Rape Eagerly Done and Done In Endless Sequence) must be stopped, before they complete their methodical ruination of our National Forests.

Harsh words? You bet! But the Forest Service has earned those words wherever it manages forests, from the Appalachian hardwoods to the great conifers of the Pacific Northwest. Here are the facts:

Today, 350,000 miles of Forest Service roads dissect the landscape. Another 580,000 miles are planned. If these roads are built, the public forests will be laced by nearly a million miles of road, about four times the distance from the Earth to the Moon. According to sources within the agency, at least 100,000 miles of these roads will be built in the remaining unprotected roadless areas— about 50 million magnificent acres of vulnerable *de facto* wilderness. According to its former chief, Max Peterson, Forest Service roading, logging, and other developments are liquidating wilderness at the rate of about 1.5 million acres each year! That is an area over twice the size of Rhode Island, and the agency doesn't plan to slow the carnage until well beyond the year 2000. In 1986 alone, 512 timber sales were put up for bid in Congressionally released roadless areas; nobody knows how many more were illegally sold in roadless lands not formally released by Congress. Nationwide, the "US Roadbuilding Service" employs twice as many civil engineers as it does wildlife biologists. But the numbers don't tell the whole story. The steady deterioration of fish and wildlife habitat; alarming reductions in genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity; drastic losses in the opportunity for solitude and quality recreation; and the ugly spreading cancer of bare eroding earth are the legacy that — unless thwarted — the Forest Service will leave us for centuries to come.

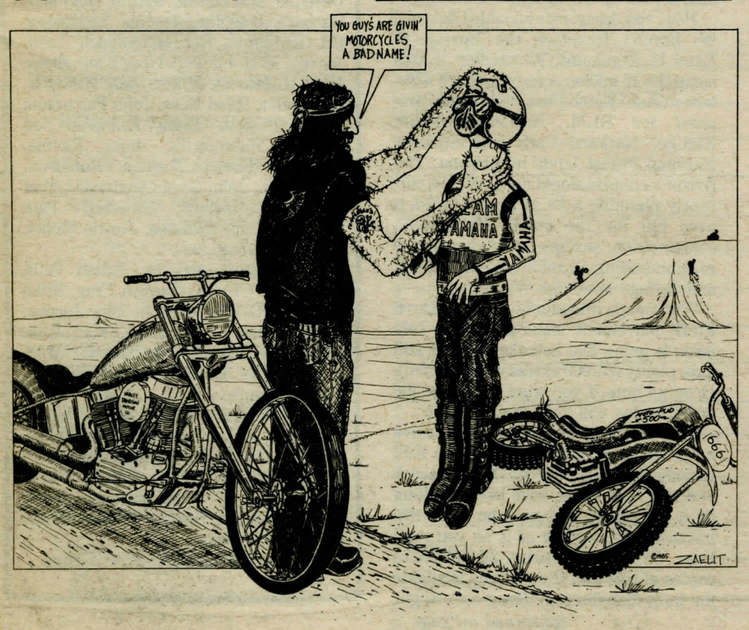
It is up to private citizens to stop the bastard children of Gifford Pinchot from reducing the public forests to tree farms laced with an unending profusion of roads and clearcuts. The "Tree Nazis" must be stopped. Now! To the agencies' plans for continued ecological holocaust, the time has come not just to say "no," but to say, "Hell no!"

Protest Plans Progress

Is your calendar marked on April 21, John Muir's birthday? Has your local Earth First! group planned an action for that day, to educate the Forest Service? Well, the National Day of Protest against the Forest Service is only ten weeks away. We are in the final stages of putting together the Muir Day info packet. It will soon be in the mail to those of you who ordered it. If you want a copy, write: Mike Roselle, Box 210, Canyon, CA 94516. We still need artwork to use for the packet and for posters. Send to the same address. The Boulder activist conference will generate more planning ideas.

Manifold and diverse actions will happen on and near Muir's birthday; be imaginative. Any action for the forests that you can take, no matter how small or large, will help. So, tell us of your plans ... and give 'em hell.

—Roger Featherstone



Barstow-Vegas Race Sabotaged

by Mohave Moll and Nevada Nell

It is a few days before Thanksgiving and already Winnebagos are pouring in. Their occupants set up camp in the desert, near the road, as they are not willing to walk anywhere. Smoke and the noise of generators, three wheelers, four wheelers, and two wheelers fill the air. These people are here to tear up the desert. It is time for the annual Barstow to Las Vegas off-road motorcycle race — through more than 100 miles of what used to be pristine Mojave Desert in California and Nevada. In a few days, 1200 of these cretins will roar across the desert — unless ...

Another band of social misfits is also in the desert. We arrive in vehicles markedly different from theirs — covered with Earth First! bumperstickers. We gather to discuss last minute details. Some leave to do recon. Some stay to start press work.

We want to stop the race cold. To do this, we will construct a wooden plug, four feet thick, in the middle of a culvert under I-5, through which the racers must pass.

This year's Barstow-Vegas race will pass through some of the most sublime portions of the Mojave Desert. Part of the course abuts the area proposed as the Mojave National Park. Destruction from previous races is apparent. Erosion, tracks and motorcycle parts mark the landscape. The racers have an eight-foot-wide corridor within which they are supposed to stay, but these people can barely read, let alone stay on the straight and narrow. This race is so environmentally destructive that only a small interest supports it, yet no one has taken action to stop it. Earth First! intends to remedy this situation.

Our band of EF!ers (yes, Virginia it was EF!) meets after dark in a city dump. Here we cut, drill, nail and preassemble as much of the railroad tie, 6x6, and plywood plug as we can. At 1 AM, we load everything on a trailer. Some have already left for the culvert to be lookouts. The trailer heads onto I-5, and the interstate looks like rush hour. "How are we going to unload this stuff and not be noticed?"

"If anyone stops, we have a flat and need to unload the trailer to fix it." Our resourceful band waits for breaks in the traffic and then frantically carries the heavy timbers down the embankment. Finally the trailer is empty. It heads for the hills.

Imagine eight people, 25 railroad ties, rebar, tools, nails, plywood, torches and tempers all in a tunnel eight feet wide, six feet tall and 180 feet long. Imagine foostering railroad ties in place and nailing them together, and trying to do it silently. From inside the tunnel, it sounds like a war is happening. Outside, the lookouts hear nothing. Before dawn, it is finished. Someone stretches a yellow tape across the race entry side of the tunnel. We want to stop the race, not bust heads.

After a mad scramble across several miles of desert, we reach the get-away vehicle and melt into the rising sun.

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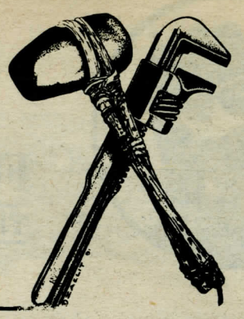
EARTH FIRST!



NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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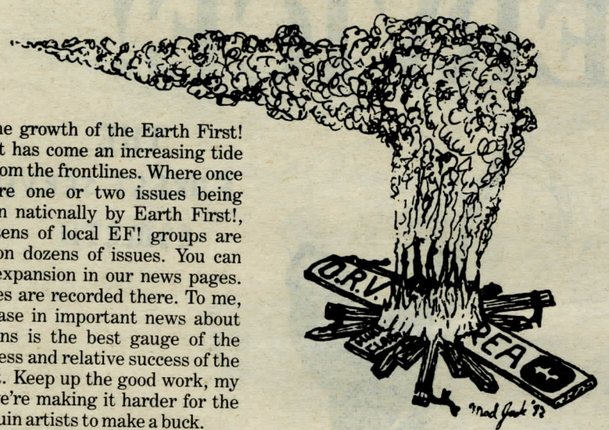
Around the Campfire



With the growth of the Earth First! movement has come an increasing tide of news from the frontlines. Where once there were one or two issues being worked on nationally by Earth First!, today dozens of local EF! groups are working on dozens of issues. You can see that expansion in our news pages. The battles are recorded there. To me, this increase in important news about EF! actions is the best gauge of the effectiveness and relative success of the movement. Keep up the good work, my friends, we're making it harder for the rape and ruin artists to make a buck.

Unfortunately, this mushrooming of the news which we need to report creates its own editorial problem. There simply isn't room enough to provide in-depth coverage (like we did for Bald Mountain back in '83) on every issue. Local EF! newsletters can take up some of that, but we have been struggling in the *Journal* office with the problem of how to cover everything EF! does, yet fit it all in, and still have room for essays, reviews, Ned Ludd, wilderness proposals, etc.

Commencing with this issue, we begin three new columns. First, we will provide news summaries of EF! actions and issues around the world. We hope these succinct reports, some with photos, will conserve space while allowing us to do justice to the growing EF! activist network. Second, we will begin a column of environmental news from abroad. Third, rather than feature a 4-page World Rainforest Report four times a year, Denise Voelker of the Rainforest Action Network will send us a column of rainforest news and events. These three columns join the "Nemesis News Net" (a potpourri of sometimes zany conservation news from outside the EF! movement) and "Earth First! Bulletins" (which reports on upcoming EF! events — rendezvous, meetings, road shows, etc.). As part of our effort to financially assist local EF! groups, we are now featuring a half-page or page of free advertising for local EF! groups. (Order this merchandise directly from the local groups, not from our office in Tucson!) We encourage local EF! activists to continue sending your reports (and photos) to John Davis for inclusion in our pages.

Speaking of merchandise, we're going to try to conserve space in our Trinkets and Snake Oil section, too. We have steadily been expanding the number of important (and often hard to find) books we make available to our readers. The problem is that our book listing is now taking up an entire page. Our solution is to give the complete listing with descriptions a couple of times a year; otherwise to describe new books and maybe a few others on a rotating basis and simply list title, author and price for the others. You may want to save the descriptive listing when it appears. We will do the same with the EF! Music listing. (The number of EF! musicians has become impressive!).

While I'm on the subject of Trinkets and Snake Oil, let me mention that filling orders has become a halftime job for one person. (Charles Conner is doing an excellent job of keeping it under control.) We try to be as ecologically responsible as possible in shipping your orders but we also want to ship them so that they arrive undamaged to you. Some of you may wonder about the styrofoam "peanuts" or "popcorn" (or whatever the damn things are called) that we occasionally use for packing material. I hate that crap. You probably do, too. Rest assured that we do not buy it. We are merely recycling what we receive in stuff shipped to us. It's better than throwing it away. I suggest that if you receive some of it as packing material from us that you save it and re-use it again when you ship something. Otherwise we use the effluent from "Ollie," our paper shredder, for packing.

Another note: Please do not send your subscription money to the EF! Foundation. Ned Ludd Books (the publisher of this newspaper) and the EF! Foundation are not connected. They are entirely separate operations within the EF! movement. Send contributions to the Foundation or local groups; send subscription checks to *The Earth First! Journal*. Thanks. It will save us all extra trouble and prevent your sub from becoming lost in the shuffle.

We have some good material for you this issue. One article, which will doubtless be controversial, is Randal O'Toole's "Reforming the Forest Service." You may not agree with Randal's solution, but you should agree that at last someone with knowledge and insight on Forest Service management is approaching the problem with creativity. It's a pleasure to feature his article this issue. We encourage a healthy discussion in response to it. Note that we are also selling his new book "Reforming the Forest Service." Randal, by the way, is a forest economist with Cascade Holistic Economic Consultants (CHEC), and is the finest hired gun conservation groups can employ to shoot holes in Forest Plans.

Leon Czolgosz returns to his keyboard with a report on the mismanagement of one of America's great National Forests, New Mexico's Gila (my favorite place). His article is a fine compliment to Randal's. We also have a report from the other side of the country on the mismanagement of the White Mountain NF in New Hampshire.

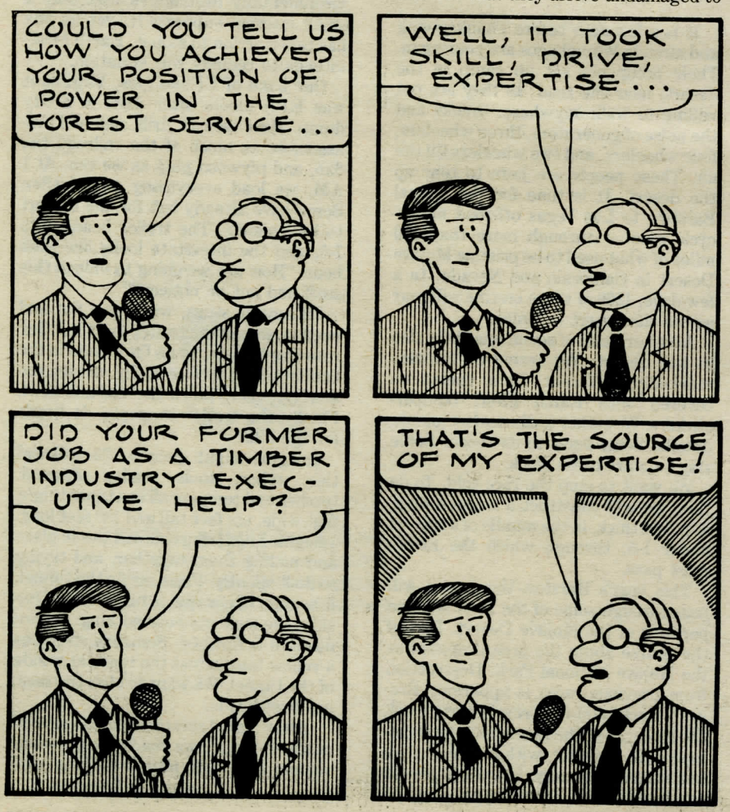
Our lead article ties in with this Freddie-bashing theme — the redoubtable Howie Wolke sounds the clarion call against the United States Forest Service to kick off our national protest against the Forest Service on April 21. Howie is busy at work on a 4-page insert on the National Forests which will be included in our Eostar issue. Lots of extras will be printed as well for further distribution by EF! groups and activists.

Now, you desert rats shouldn't despair. We haven't forgotten the Bureau of Land Management. We present in this issue the 19 million acre (yes, that's *nineteen* million) Earth First! Wilderness proposal for BLM, National Wildlife Refuge, National Park and adjacent National Forest lands in Arizona. The Arizona congressional delegation is currently planning a BLM/Refuge Wilderness bill for the state. Mainstream conservation groups in Arizona are recommending 4.1 million acres of BLM and Refuge lands for Wilderness.

The 4-page introduction to the Earth First! movement included in our Yule issue is going like hotcakes but we still have plenty (25,000 extras were printed). Drop us note if you want 10, 50 or 100 and Charles will ship them to you.

In a couple of weeks you will receive a special 12-page tabloid from the EF! Grizzly Bear Task Force. Doug Peacock and the Task Force have been working on it for nearly a year. John and I are initiating production of it as you read this. We will also print 25,000 extra copies of this and they will be available for bulk distribution. Doug and Roger

continued on page 3


COULD YOU TELL US HOW YOU ACHIEVED YOUR POSITION OF POWER IN THE FOREST SERVICE...
WELL, IT TOOK SKILL, DRIVE, EXPERTISE...
DID YOUR FORMER JOB AS A TIMBER INDUSTRY EXECUTIVE HELP?
THAT'S THE SOURCE OF MY EXPERTISE!
b. von Alten

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Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. *Agents provocateurs* will be dealt with by the Grizzly Defense League on the Mirror Plateau.

Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, *double spaced*, and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Art or photographs (black & white prints preferred, color prints or slides OK) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. *Due to* our tight budget, no payment is offered except for extra copies of the issue.

Earth First! is indexed in the Alternative Press Index.

All material should be sent to Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703, except for poetry which should go to Art Goodtimes, Box 1008, Telluride, CO 81435.

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Contributing Photographers: David Cross, Roger Featherstone, Doug Peacock, Scott Smith, Howie Wolke, George Wuerthner.

Mailing: Tucson Earth First! Group

David Gaines, 1947-1988

On January 11, 1988, David Gaines, founder and guiding light of the Mono Lake Committee, tragically met his death when the car in which he was riding was hit head on by another vehicle near Mammoth Lakes, California. Also killed was Don Oberlin, a dear friend of the Earth and fellow MLC employee.

Dave was a man of many talents and interests. His first love was Mono Lake. He founded the Mono Lake Committee in 1978. Dave was also an exceptional naturalist, an excellent musician and budding songwriter (with thanks to Dakota Sid and Darryl Cherney, who greatly inspired Dave), and a loving father to his young children, Vireo and Sage.

Dave was introduced to Earth First! in 1984, and, as for many of us, it was a coming "home" for him. The MLC was Dave's way of working within the system, but EF! was the wildness that was Dave. His was a quiet yet passionate support for all that EF! stood for. He was always there to give me his wisdom, encouragement and love in my often lonely struggles here in the eastern Sierra.

It will be hard for some of us to continue without Dave's physical presence, yet I feel that when he died, Dave gave to us some of his most precious gift — his vibrant and visionary spirit, spirit of wildness, spirit of the condor. I feel that spirit when I walk in the Mono Basin — it is in the sweet smelling sage, the great expanse of desert sky, and most of all in the lake that was so much a part of Dave. Onwards, friends....

—Sally Miller

Editor's note: The last article written by David Gaines is reprinted below in order to share with all our readers a sweet memory of this great preservationist.

David Gaines. 1947 - 1987. Photo by Jim Stroup.

Mono Lake Watch

by Dave Gaines

The summer solstice marks the height of Mono Lake's spring: flowers in colorful bloom, islands covered with gull eggs, sagebrush brimming with bird song....

The swell of life is contagious, and we, too, delight in the land and lake's rebirth. It works in our blood. It tears us away from desks, papers and telephones, and propels us into the real world of sprouts, buds and singing birds. The office can't contain us. We move our weekly staff meeting down to the lake, where we can include desert peach blossoms, spadefoot toads, yellow-headed blackbirds and brine shrimp.

Outside my window, house wrens are singing incessantly. They can't sit still, and neither can I. Yesterday I bicycled to lower Rush Creek, where one of the tufa-nesting ospreys was fishing for trout. The day before, I joined avocets, phalaropes and winnowing snipe on Mono's north shore. Piles of papers wait impatiently while I count the clouds, take Mono's pulse and align myself with the changing seasons.

I'm a newsletter refugee. Today, instead of writing about lawsuits, I ambled to the summit of the ridge behind Lee Vining. From a small patch of tundra where horned larks nest, the world drops into water and space. Mono Lake sprawls across the landscape like a giant amoeba.

These ramblings connect my work to the land. They bring me face-to-face with what the poet Wallace Stevens called "point-blank reality." Sometimes I'm led to epiphanies, but more often to questions and insights which are not always simple or comfortable.

But, after all, that's why I'm trying to save this place: because it can teach us and put us in our place.

Looking down on Mono's cerulean waters, I think of burgeoning cities at the other end of the aqueduct. I think of a civilization estranged from the earth that sustains it. I think of the waste and pollution that threaten us all. I think of the fate of birds, flowers and children when the ozone layer is gone, the rains stop falling, and the bombs do.

I think of my life. I have not lived lightly on this earth but have consumed, directly or indirectly, more than my share or need of water, topsoil, oil and other resources. I have fathered two children who also will burden this overcrowded planet.

But as long as the birds return and the flowers bloom, I will dream of a time when we value blue skies more than new automobiles, count our wealth in joy rather than possessions, and dwell in peace and balance with the earth. I am not without hope.

The growing support for saving Mono Lake inspires that hope. While I can't entirely explain that support, a random survey of Californians suggests it has less to do with personal recreation than with altruistic values like protecting wildlife habitat and "Knowing future generations will have Mono Lake as it exists today." That survey, conducted by Dr. John Loomis of the UC Davis, also found that California households are willing to pay an average of $7.90 more per month on their water bills to keep Mono Lake higher than it is today — 36 times the cost of replacing the water and hydropower. While I do not think the lake should or can be valued in dollars and cents, I find this willingness to pay a hopeful reflection of growing, broad-based concern for the health of our land.

The growth of the Mono Lake Committee is also a heartening sign. In 1978, I sent the first Mono Lake Newsletter to approximately 300 people. Now, nine years later, we number more than 10,000. I wish I could walk Mono's shores with each of you, sharing visions and dreams of a less troubled future.

Wherever you live, don't neglect to listen to the voices and rhythms of the earth. Let's deepen our roots as we grow. For by planting ourselves, we renew our senses, our direction, our motivation, our resourcefulness — in sum, the spiritual tools we need in the courtroom, the legislature and before the public.

This was originally published in the Mono Lake Newsletter.

Campfire . . .

Continued from page 2

Featherstone hope to launch a Grizzly Bear Roadshow later this year if the necessary promotional money can be raised. The roadshow will feature Doug and his extraordinary movie footage of wild Grizzlies just bein' Grizzlies.

I've been privileged in my life to encounter a few truly noble individuals. One of these was David Gaines, the founder of the Mono Lake Committee. David possessed a rare combination of qualities — he was a visionary, he was a hard-core fighter for Earth, yet he was a wonderfully loving, gentle, decent human being. He was an inspiration to me. And an example. He died last month in a senseless automobile accident along with Don Oberlin, an intern for the Mono Lake Committee. Damnit, it hurts. David Gaines was what all of us naked apes must become if we are to survive with Earth. Sally Miller, who works for the Mono Lake Committee, remembers David on the next page. We are also honored to present the last essay he wrote.

When David died, he left the world a better place than it would have been without him. Let that be the epithet for all of us.

May all of you be blessed with the goodness of the wilderness.

— *Dave Foreman*

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Lengthy letters may be edited for space requirement. Letters should be typed or carefully printed and double-spaced, using only one side of a sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate if you want your name and location to appear or if you wish to remain anonymous. Send letters to POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Dear Dave,

Being a "wolf" person, I sent a few bucks to the EF! Wolf Action Network. In return, I received a recycled envelope containing a hand scribbled note on scrap paper which said "Thanks." It was so sincere and appreciative that I think it's the best thank you note I've ever received. There are nice folks involved in EF!. So I'm sending more loot.

Wyanokie Al

Dear Dave Foreman:

Your "Whither Earth First!" piece is on the mark. I support it and support you. Your sideswipe at the Teilhardians, though, leads me to say the following:

Teilhard's importance is *not* to be found in his ecological perspective, although he is quoted as saying once: "If I had to choose between God and the Earth, I would choose the Earth." Teilhard's importance is to be found in his firm placement of the human in the natural order, in both the material and spiritual aspects. Thomas Berry, who has been the leader in the Teilhard Association for many years, says of Teilhard: "He gave us a new cosmology, a new theology and new anthropology." Tom was speaking perhaps to the religious community which has failed to perceive the need to revise how it accounts for the human presence in the world in the light of the new cosmology. But in his own development of how the human relates to the non-human world Tom's interpretation and extension of Teilhard's thought needs attention. Tom is not less eloquent than Edward Abbey in this area.

When we ask how the human fits into the earth process the answer is simple: The human is that being in whom the earth community reflects on and celebrates itself in conscious self-awareness. The earth is a celebratory event. The end and purpose of all science, technology, industry, commerce and finance is celebration. This is what moves the stars through the heavens and the earth through its seasons. The final norm of judgment concerning the success or failure of our technologies is the extent to which they enable us to participate in this grand festival.

Thomas emphasizes the subordination of the human to the life community — the part is not greater than the whole. The human journey is an aspect of the earth journey and subject to it. Thomas is important to Earth First! in that he gives your activism legitimacy in theology and philosophy. Not so much gives legitimacy but articulates it.

Anyway, Teilhard, like Darwin, can be badly misunderstood. He opened windows even if he was blind to the ecological disasters EF! confronts.

Jim Berry
North Carolina

Dear Dave,

I have but one answer to Murray Bookchin and others who would condemn deep ecology in the name of human freedom: I ask them to contemplate the implications of the J-curve describing human population growth. There's no scarier image I know of.

In his recent tirade, Bookchin writes, "Human beings are not fruit flies .... Their reproductive behavior is profoundly conditioned by cultural values, standards of living, social traditions, the status of women, religious beliefs, socio-political conflicts, and various socio-political expectations." OK, Mr. Bookchin, I agree — so maybe it's up to you and your followers to find non-coercive ways of addressing these factors, so as to let us humans demonstrate our freedom to choose *not* to be fruit flies. But if you deny the gravity of the curve itself, you'd better drop the "ecology" from the name of your movement.

Ronnie Hawkins
Florida

Ed. note: See Ronnie's "j-curve" of human population growth on this page.

Dear SFB,

This is an I-eat-crow and a pox-on-all-their-houses letter. I complained before about Earth First! not accepting the timid and half-hearted into its ranks. I was wrong! There are plenty of such folks populating the ranks of conservation organizations.

My enlightening experience had to do with the motorcycle romp across the desert on Thanksgiving weekend — the infamous Barstow-Vegas race. The orthodox conservation organizations were handed two cooked geese (BLM and the American Motorcyclist Association — AMA) on the platter and wound up — ALL of them, The Wilderness Society,

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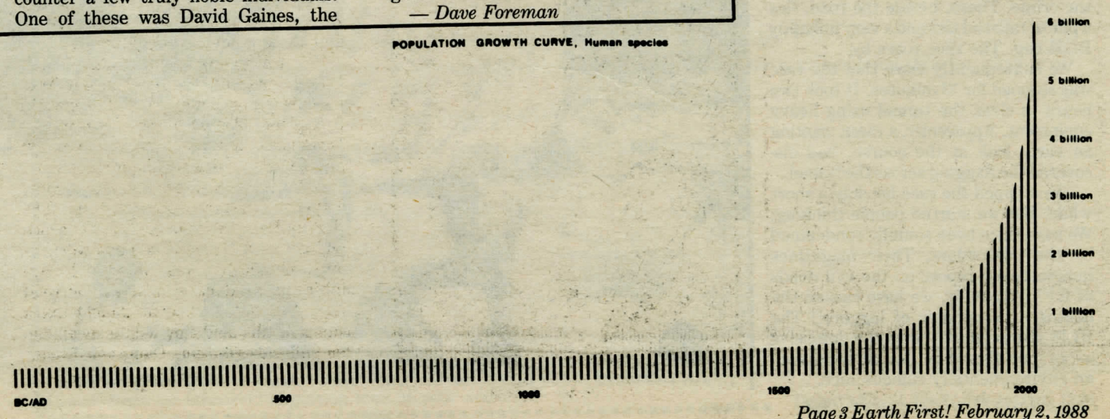


DINKEY: Delivered — Or Doomed?

by J.P. Bernhard

Although Earth First! is well entrenched in the state of California today, five years ago the Golden State was unknown territory to the wild bunch of cowboys and cowgirls from Nevada, Wyoming and Utah that were Earth First! at the time. That is, it was until a wild bunch from Fresno (of all places!) invited us over to help them protect a wild stream in the Sierra named Dinkey (Dinkey?!) Creek. Wildcat Annie, Johnny Sagebrush and I rode over, some EF!ers we hadn't met yet from the Bay Area came down, and we had one hell of a good time. It was a hopeless cause. But it's been won — for now. I wish I could claim credit for it, but that goes to the Sierra Association for the Environment and Mike, JV, Joe, Melinda, Timmy and some other street fightin' environmeddlers who didn't know the word 'quit.' There are few articles I've been so pleased to run as this report from my buddy (and the buddy of the late Sam Peckinpah) Joe Bernhard.

— Dave Foreman

On October 16, 1982, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against the Sierra Association For Environment's action to stop the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's decision to permit a mob of corporate welfare farmers and their hired minions to damn Dinkey Creek.

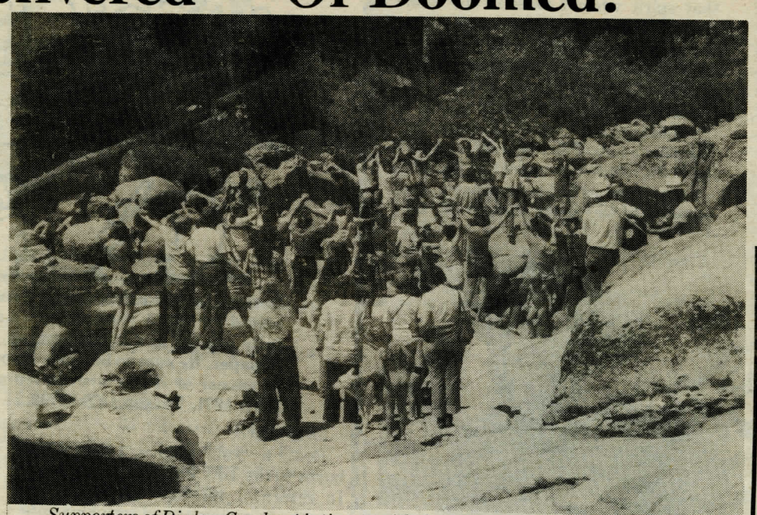
Bad day at Black Rock.

We met in gloom, counted off the sad history of defeats suffered since we'd started the struggle a half-decade past and wondered what to do next. Some, noting years had passed since anyone had stopped a major hydro project, suggested quitting. The most optimistic approach held by those of us who wanted to continue was purely existentialist: it's always right to fight the good fight — though it would be nice if we'd win one now and then.

As usual, we were broke, none of us earning much money and spending sizable chunks of that on saving Dinkey. Our lawyers went unpaid but kept filing and appearing anyway.

Mike Bordenave attended law school and became adept at writing briefs, motions, appeals and all that other crap necessary to save a stream or a tree or an animal these days. Yet for each brief, each appeal, the photocopying and mailing costs exceeded $300.

Stress caused families to separate, friends to become enemies, relationships to travel from give me some loving to give me some space. Mike began noticing strangers parked in front of his house. If they followed him when he drove away, he worried about being physically assaulted; if they didn't, he worried about his house being broken into. Helicopters owned by the Rogers family — which earns hundreds of thousands of dollars yearly from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG & E), the Southern California Edison Company (SCE), and the Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) — circled my place at illegal altitudes and were joined by fixed winged planes with no identification numbers and by California Highway Patrol choppers (the nearest road that resembles a highway is five miles away as the condor used to fly). These aircraft scattered neighbors' cattle and horses, sometimes through fences. One day CHP chopper



Supporters of Dinkey Creek get intimate with the water at the "Don't Damn Dinkey" rally, 1982.

#N3786 hovered 100 feet above my roof with its bubble pulled back while someone leaned over with camera clicking. One would think they'd at least send me a photo. I've always wanted to see what the old cabin looks like from the sky. Threats to life and limb were infrequent but hard to dismiss. J.V. Henry, formerly of Sierra Association For Environment (SAFE) but now with Save Our Streams (SOS), received such threats. Then one night his pickup and mobile homes were destroyed by fire. Arson investigators attributed the cause to faulty wiring in the truck, even though it had been parked for seven hours when the fire broke out.

The Forest Service pursued its avowed purpose of using taxpayer dollars to preserve the wilderness by providing vehicles and chauffeurs for grunts serving in the gang hired by the gargoyles of greed, and by marketing trees to be cut during construction. The Forest Service also tried to deny Dinkey supporters their freedom of speech when supporters informed visitors to the forest of what was happening and solicited donations for Don't Damn Dinkey t-shirts. When our lawyer stopped that flagrant misuse of authority, Forest Service employees intimidated both recreationists and Safers by walking a few steps behind the latter everywhere they went in the Dinkey area. They specialized in badgering women. Interestingly, today some Forest Service employees wear Don't Damn Dinkey shirts to work.

Prior to 1982, SAFE was alone in defending Dinkey. The conventional environmental groups had already traded Dinkey to KRCD for the promise that no dam would be built at Rodger's Crossing on the Kings. Their arrogance in presuming they had Dinkey to trade suffered a severe blow later when KRCD reneged on its end of the deal.

The bright spot in 1982 was the full blown support given SAFE by the then fledgling Earth First!. We had a great rally and all night campfire together at Dinkey, then next day (Don Hodel, please note) draped a symbolic, black plastic crack on O'Shaughnessy (Hetch Hetchy) dam.

The attorneys owned by the valley water wasters tried to dismiss SAFE's legal monkeywrenching as "frivolous" but no court ever agreed with that charge. (Recently KRCD hired a PR firm to "improve" [read "cover up"] its image for $35,000.) During one month in summer of 1986, KRCD administrators squandered $250,000 on lawyer fees. This money was received from people — including Fig Garden residents — who are forced to buy their water. (SAFE never spent $35,000 total in the ten years we fought the war.)

None of us were suchamuch on money raising, but after 1982 the great t-shirts that Tim Kapral designed, and solicited donations, prevented our complete economic submersion. The Tehipite chapter of the Sierra Club supported us and Ron Santigian rallied the Friends of Camp Fresno to our side. We formed alliances with the Committee to Save the Kings and SOS. Individuals from the YWCA and the Girl Scouts (both organizations had camps destined to be flooded) helped. However, the YWCA itself never backed us, and while the Girl Scouts put aside $5000 to pay an attorney to negotiate with KRCD for a new campsite, they donated nary a cent to SAFE to save the old one.

The County Board of Supervisors failed to back us but the Fresno City Council unanimously shouted: "Don't Damn Dinkey!" Friends and supporters included informants from PG & E, SCE, KRCD and all government agencies involved; but the most surprising help arrived from the Artists For Social Responsibility. Their financial and spiritual contributions helped lift us out of a fiscal and psychological hole.

Those in the media and political worlds evinced more and more interest in SAFE and that eccentric and erratic, persistent but unpredictable Mike Bordenave, who led the crusade. He actually approached respectability — a condition older and wiser people know is to be avoided like a skin-shedding rattler.

And, after losing every battle, we won the war.

For now, anyway: as our friendly informants assure us enemy forces are planning another assault on the longest free flowing stream in Sierra National Forest. Legislative Wild and Scenic status is the only real protection for Dinkey. It deserves it as much as does the Kings.

The California Public Utilities Commission's decision that forced the Kings River Conservation District to abandon its proposed hydroelectric project was delivered on October 16, 1986 — four years to the day after SAFE's darkest hour.

Mike Bordenave's birthday is October 16.

J.P. Bernhard of Nonose Valley, one of the earliest EF!ers and one of SAFE's leaders, is a poet of high repute.

Barstow-

Continued from page 1

Later, we drive back past the scene of the crime. There, beside the road, lies a pile of railroad ties and a very unhappy BLM cop. The race roars by.

We subsequently learn that the race was stopped for 13 minutes. It took two hours to clear the tunnel using heavy equipment. Apparently, a racer, wanting an early look at the course, had discovered the flagging across the tunnel.

We stopped the race for only a short while, but we started people thinking. We have since been soundly condemned by the off-roaders. Their magazines imaginatively report on the evil deeds of EF! (Allegedly, we have caused the deaths of a number of loggers!) The BLM also seems to be on the defensive — as they should be, for allowing such an environmentally ruinous race.

Joe Bernhard at the SAVE/Earth First! "Don't Damn Dinkey" rally in 1982.

Generic Challenges to Timber Harvest Plans to Inundate California Dept. of Forestry

by Darryl Cherney

Earth First! has created a "Generic Challenge" of Timber Harvest Plans (THPs) that could rock the foundations of the California Department of Forestry (CDF) approval system. Forms have been sent to people throughout the state concerned about rapacious logging.

The "Generic Challenge" follows on the heels of two environmental lawsuit victories (EPIC vs MAXXAM; Libeu vs CDF). It is ironic that while Direct Action participants are being prosecuted for misdemeanor trespassing, MAXXAM, Louisiana Pacific et al break far more serious laws and remain unimpeded. EF! will continue protests until Charles Hurwitz of MAXXAM and other industry lawbreakers are behind bars and the forests are safe.

The form is simple to use. Fill out name, address and date; place THP # on first line; sign, fold & mail. It is not necessary to order the plan and study it; such a method has thus far proven fruitless against CDF's "rubber stamping." One must get on the free THP notice list, to get the THP #. (See other THP article this issue.) Reporters should try this, too, as it can teach them how CDF works (or doesn't work).

The challenge addresses over 30 issues, raising over 100 points, and will be revised continually (suggestions welcome). Each point must be individually responded to by CDF. Among the issues are wildlife, clearcutting, wood quality, water quality, floods and fires employment, climate, the ozone layer and cumulative impact.

The purpose of the "Generic Challenge" is to ensure that CDF performs its prescribed duties; to encourage Californians to participate in democracy; and to reward timber firms for quality logging (sustained yield, no winter operations, etc.), and scrutinize firms which clearcut. Earth First! expects employment to rise if CDF follows the law. Timber firms will hire more workers for erosion control, restocking, manual thinning, etc. Government will hire more Fish & Game, Water Quality, and CDF personnel. The economy will stabilize.

The THP system is already jammed; this paper monkeywrench could stop the gears and thus facilitate change. The average CDF response to a challenge is 18 pages (9 sheets of paper), mailed at no charge to the recipient. If 400 people were to each challenge half of the 800 plans approved each year, CDF would be required to write 14,400 pages of explanations to 160,000 challenges on 2,880,000 printed pages! Consider the trees cut to make this paper Kamikaze trees, giving their lives so that others may live!

For copies of EF!'s Generic Challenge, contact: Darryl Cherney, EF!, POB 34, Garberville, CA 95440 (707-247-3320 or 3371); or Greg King at 707-826-1621 or 9557.

The Anyfool's Guide to Monitoring Timber Harvest Plans in California

We know that working within the system is a drag. But with the California Department of Forestry, we have a

golden opportunity to bring the judgment day upon a system that cannot even follow its own rules. So order a timber harvest plan, challenge it, save a few trees and watch the big boys get all bent out of shape. It's fun!

HERE'S HOW TO START: Write or call CDF and have them put you on their Timber Harvest Notification List. It's free and by law they must fulfill your request. You will then learn each week who is cutting and where. Write to California Dept of Forestry-HQ, POB 670, Santa Rosa, CA 95401. Check your phone book for closer offices, if desired.

ORDERING A THP — THE BIG $1 STEP: Phone or write CDF and request one of the THPs listed on the notification list you now receive. Try to order one from your area, but if not possible, order any one. It's worth your time and it takes their time away from approving plans. Don't worry that they'll care less diligently for our forests. That's impossible. They almost never reject a plan. Don't send money — they'll bill you one dollar per plan. Fear not for the waste of paper. These trees sacrifice themselves so that others may live. Recycle after use.

CHALLENGING A PLAN — THE QUANTUM LEAP: Now that you've received your THP, what *will* you do? Giving it to junior to color on is not a bad idea, but if you want to protect Mother Earth, here are some questions you can ask about any plan.

1. Is there old growth on this parcel? If so, how can you justify the habitat loss, moisture loss (a big redwood holds up to 4000 gallons of water), and erosion resulting from cutting?

2. Will soil eroded be replenished sufficiently to ensure new tree growth? Please cite past examples.

3. Has a thorough on-site inspection been made for rare and Endangered species, including Spotted Owl, Marbled Murrelet, Olympic Salamander, Mountain Vole, and Tailed Frog? Are there eagles' nests or Osprey or falcon habitat on the site? How many rare and endangered species are found each year on timber harvest sites?

4. Operator claims no significant environmental impact will occur. Explain. What of cumulative effect of other plans and this one? How does EPIC vs. Johnson decision pertain to cumulative effect?

5. Operator claims no archeological sites. Has there been an inspection? How many such sites turn up each year on THP lands?

6. As per state law, you must oversee sustained yield forestry. Will this operation create long-term jobs; if so, when? Please cite examples of sustained forestry you have overseen.

7. What precautions are being taken to protect streams and rivers from siltation? I am concerned about salmon habitat, water quality and fishing jobs. What steps are being taken in this plan to prevent further deterioration of these?

8. What will be the increase in ground temperature after logging? How will this effect soil, wildlife, and water quality?

9. I request that THP #____ be denied should it fail to meet Forest Practices Act and California Environmental Quality Act regulations.

Public input is CDF's Achilles heel. If you really want to get into it, hike the areas to be logged, take photos, call geological and riparian experts, visit Fish and Game, etc. But short of that, simply writing your opinion is a great first step. Always request a written response.

CDF will not clean up its act without prodding. At present, CDF does no surprise inspections. Trees need not be replanted for up to six years after the plan is approved. Join us in our "Mill-in," a filibuster of CDF. Commit yourself to requesting and answering one timber harvest plan per month.

Darryl is one of our tribe's great singers and is a Northcoast California EF! leader. Contact him (Box 34, Garberville, 95440) for more information on the THP campaign.

Ecodefenders Sabotage Bighorn Hunt

by Rod Coronado

Members of Earth First! and the Hunt Saboteurs scouting the Marble Mountains for Nelson Bighorn Sheep hunters. Photo by Chris Velucci, Independent News Service.

As the sun set on December 5, we stood on a bare ridge flaked with loose rock. To the west arose Old Dad Peak. A full curl Nelson Bighorn Ram walked nearby. To the east stood two trophy hunters, with one of eight Bighorn tags to fill. We had hunted the hunters all day and now stood between them and their prey, with air horns blaring and whistles blowing, just as the "hunter" prepared to fire. The ram scrambled for safer ground, and the hunters left in defeat.

So began the efforts to prevent the first trophy hunt of Bighorn Sheep in over a century. On this day, activists from Earth First! chapters and the Hunt Saboteurs Association joined to form the Bighorn Defense League.

In 1987, Assembly Bill 3117 was enacted into law, amending the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) code to allow Bighorn Sheep hunting for the first time in 114 years. The "hunt" would occur on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, in the East Mojave Desert on Old Dad Peak, and the Marble Mountains to the south, and would allow the "harvesting" of nine "surplus" rams. By special drawing in which 4000 applied, eight applicants were awarded tags to take one mature Nelson Bighorn Ram each. The ninth permit went to Bob Howard, Director of the Bighorn Research Institute in Palm Desert, California, who was so desperate to kill the first Bighorn that he paid $70,000 in a special auction that allowed the highest bidder first shot of the century.

By the mid-19th century, commercial hunters had driven California's Bighorn population nearly to extinction. Cattle and sheep grazing damaged Bighorn habitat and brought deadly diseases. In 1883 Bighorns in California gained full protection. The herds have since slowly grown, and recent translocation efforts have reestablished Bighorn in their native habitat. However, the CDFG's Mountain Sheep Management Plan has not proposed reintroduction of native predators nor eliminating grazing allotments in Bighorn habitat. There have been some limitations on public livestock grazing in Bighorn habitat, but there remain three grazing allotments in the Old Dad Peak region. In the 1970s and early '80s, Big Game Guzzlers were installed to provide Bighorn Sheep with a perennial water source. This has allowed an unnatural increase in Bighorn numbers in the two management areas where the hunt recently took place. CDFG estimates the Bighorn population in these areas to be 415 animals. Fences have been erected around some guzzlers to exclude domestic livestock and feral animals. (Feral burros roam this area.) Despite these measures, livestock disease still afflicts many Bighorns.

The Old Dad Peak region is relatively free of disease, but the Marble Mountain Bighorns have recently been infected with such diseases as Parainfluenza 3, bovine respiratory syncytial virus, Bluetongue, and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease. These infections may be the result of cattle trespassing Bighorn water sources and habitat.

The Bighorns have become overpopulated in the management areas due to the elimination of native predators, creation of artificial water sources, and obstruction of traditional migratory routes. Passages between mountain ranges are now blocked by Interstates 15 and 40 — preventing Bighorns from spreading throughout their former range. The Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep (SCBS) and the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep largely funded installation of the guzzlers. Both organizations support trophy hunting.

Despite the opposition of such groups as the Fund for Animals and the Coalition for Animal Rights, the Desert Bighorn was delisted from the category of protected wildlife. So, the season was set to begin on December 5 and last until the 21st. While the hunt did not threaten the survival of the species, animal liberationists and deep ecologists opposed the hunt as a prostitution of the sheep to the demands of a small group of trophy hunters. In addition to supporting the hunt, the CDFG and BLM have ignored the serious threats to Bighorn populations such as livestock grazing, domestic disease, mining, and off road vehicle use.

We established a base camp at a hotel in the town of Baker. Representative of the Hunt Saboteurs, Verena Gill, offered their tactics used in England interfering with fox hunts. We chose to focus on the Old Dad Peak region where four sheep were sentenced to death. After thwarting the hunters' efforts on December 5, we were confronted by a CDFG warden who stated that if we continued our protest we would be cited for hunter harassment.

The following day Todd and I trailed Dr. Loren Lutz, founder of the SCBS and guide for two of the hunters. We were surprised by Lutz and his hunter and forced to hide 40 feet from where they stood spotting for rams. Desert camouflage prevented our detection. They located a "Grand Dad Ram." We sneaked into position to again sabotage the hunt. As Hunter Bob unslung his rifle, we shattered the silence with horns and whistles. As we escaped, Lutz appeared on horseback and ordered us to stop. Not wanting to provoke a violent hunter with a rifle, we let him make a citizen's arrest and lead us to his camp. Three hours later, we were taken into custody. The CDFG and BLM fished for an offense with which to charge us, and settled on "interference with the lawful use of public lands by others." We were issued citations and released.

On December 7, with the arrival of four Santa Cruz Earth First!ers, teams of two again followed Lutz, but Lutz and his son Kenneth chased them down by horse. Lutz struck one of them with his rope. Kenneth hit another in the face, fracturing his nose. The activists were then led to the hunters' camp, where they were forced into a stock truck lined with manure, there to be held for 11 hours without food or water. Eventually CDFG wardens and San Bernadino County sheriff deputies arrived to take the activists to Barstow City Jail, where they were held for three days on the charge of "conspiracy to commit a felony." With bail of $5000 set on each, the CDFG and BLM had successfully deactivated four activists.

On December 8, we were unable to have any activist in the field, and two sheep were killed. By then, we had gained the attention of Craig MacGill, BLM special investigator, who was investigating the sabotage of the Barstow-to-Vegas race the week before. He visited our camp, but then disappeared.

On the 9th, Todd entered the hunt area before dawn. After sounding the air horn for the morning hunt, he happened across one of the hunting parties. As the hunter threw off his pack, Todd dashed away.

Early the next day, I climbed a ridge near Old Dad Peak and heralded the new day with my air horn and whistle. I then hid in a pile of rocks until the evening hunt. At 1630, as I emerged to sound my horn again, two rams bolted away.

Having to focus our efforts on Old Dad Peak, the Marble Mountains stood unguarded. By December 11, five Bighorns had been shot. We realized the improbability of stopping the remaining three hunters, but agreed to continue, if for nothing else, to focus attention on the ecologically destructive policies of the CDFG. Earth First! spokesperson Michael Robinson assured us that our efforts were not in vain. Already he had been interviewed for national radio and various newspapers.

On December 12, we received reinforcements from animal rights groups, even while an EF! rendezvous was taking shape in the Granite Mountains to the south. For the first time, we dispatched Bighorn defenders to the Marbles.

Meanwhile nine activists, joined by a news reporter, entered Lutz's camp seeking information on the arrest of the four EF!ers. There, Lutz and a CDFG warden confronted them. Soon another CDFG warden, two California Highway Patrol (CHP) officers, a BLM ranger, and a deputy sheriff arrived. A CHP helicopter was called in. We were issued citations for disturbing the peace and released.

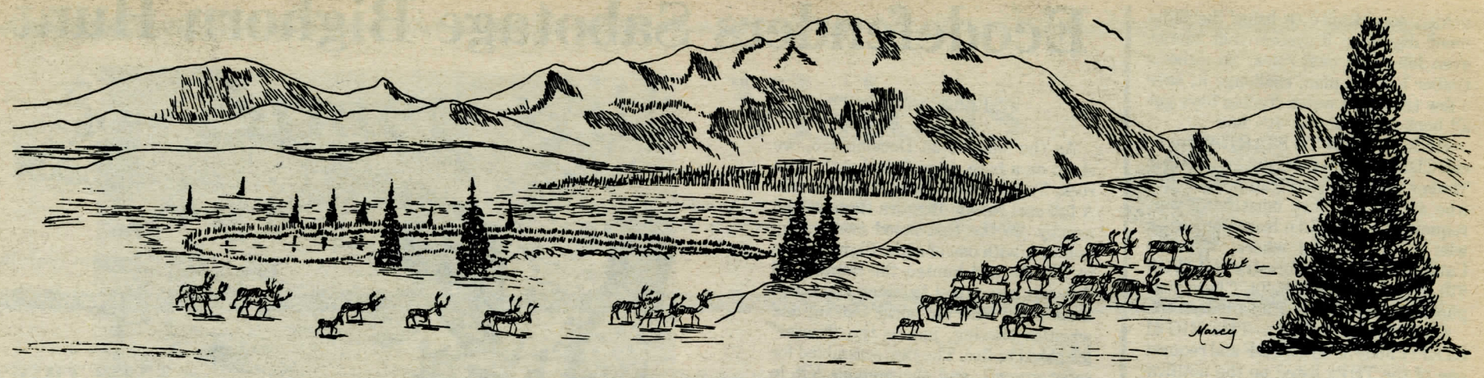
Meanwhile, in the Marble Mountains, our team of six searched this larger area for the remaining hunters. On the 13th, they found the camp of the seventh hunter ... even as he and a CDFG warden posed with a Bighorn skull.

Our efforts were too little, too late. We had prevented the killing of four rams, but others weren't as fortunate. The arrest and physical abuse of activists discouraged others from joining us. By the 14th, our numbers were down to four. High winds prevented an intervention with the last hunter. With funds from our own pockets and from the Fund For Animals exhausted, we were forced to end our campaign of hunt sabotage.

We were far from unsuccessful, however. For the first time, Earth First!ers and Animal Liberationists had joined forces to thwart a trophy hunt, and focus attention on the abuse of wildlife. We have set the precedent, and the CDFG now knows that commercializing of our natural heritage will be met by direct action.

Lutz is still smarting from the hunt and says he will push for hunter harassment laws to be implemented in California. Similar laws in other states have been proven to be unconstitutional when challenged. The Hunt Saboteurs Association has been founded in America. In response to the actions of the Bighorn Defense League, Lutz stated: "They were totally effective in their attempts to disrupt the hunt. They ruined it."

Rod Coronado is an ecodefender with Sea Shepherd Society, Earth First!, Hunt Saboteurs Association, and Animal Liberation Front.



ALASKA NATIONAL PARKS WILDERNESS REVIEW DRAFT EISs DUE TO BE RELEASED IN FEBRUARY

by Suslositna Eddy

At this moment, 13 National Park Service (NPS) administered units in Alaska are involved in the Wilderness review process mandated by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA: the 1980 law which created these National Parks and Monuments). The draft environmental impact statements (DEISs) are being prepared in Anchorage, Alaska, and Denver, Colorado, and are scheduled to be released in three batches beginning in mid-February. Most of the drafts have four alternatives which range from no new Wilderness to 100% Wilderness. The estimated total area of potential Wilderness in NPS units in Alaska exceeds 20 million acres! This would be the largest addition to the NPS Wilderness system since ANILCA was passed by Congress and the Carter administration.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

*** Write now to NPS Alaska and request a complete copy of each DEIS. The address is: Alaska Ntl Pks Wilderness review, 2525 Gambell St, Rm 202, Anchorage, AK 99503, attn: Sandy Rabinowich.**

*** TIPS FOR LOCAL GROUPS: Thirteen DEISs are tough to comment on in the allotted time, hence each Earth First! local group should divide the tasks. Each DEIS release will include four drafts, one for each Park. When you receive the drafts:**

1) Instantly send a letter to the same address requesting an extension on the public comment period due to the length and complexity of the document and the fact that you have just received four at once.

2) Divide your local group into teams. Each team take a Park, review the draft and formulate comments and a proposal. Bring comments before the whole group for discussion.

3) Send one comment as a group signed only with your local group's name (Bay Area EF!, Texas EF!, etc.). Include your group mailing address.

4) In addition to sending group comments, send an individual comment yourself with your name and address.

5) Request that your comments and proposals be included in the final EIS and considered for implementation, and that you be sent a copy of the FEIS upon its release.

ADDITIONAL TIPS FOR INDIVIDUALS:

1) Send at least one 14 cents postcard for each Park (total cost $1.82).

2) Contact your local Sierra Club, Audubon Society, Rock Rats Mountaineering Club, etc., and ask them to send comments. Address one of their meetings. Hand out postcards for them to send.

3) Ask all your friends to send in comments.

At this level of wilderness planning, each individual's input counts as much as does each group's input. At this stage, the powerful interest groups — trophy hunt guides, miners, and bush pilots — don't have the advantage of owning NPS. If NPS is overwhelmed numerically by pro-Wilderness comments, they must recommend to Congress a pro-Wilderness Alaska National Park system. So ... avail yourself of this unique opportunity to make it clear that the wilderness of our "last frontier" should stay as it is — wilderness!

Montana Wilderness Association Sells Out

by R.C.

In the Eostar Edition, M.T. Rhetoric blasted the Montana Wilderness Association for being wimps for supporting designation of a paltry 2.5 million acres of the 6.8 million acres of Forest Service lands eligible for Wilderness. Rhetoric was mistaken.

Instead of supporting 2.5 million acres, MWA is supporting only 1.3 million. Instead of wimps, they are sell-outs. MWA hasn't even dealt with 2.2 million acres of eligible BLM lands.

The Montana public thinks MWA supports Alternative W, a compromise reached between 51 Montana outdoors and conservation organizations. This is not so.

MWA Program Director John Gatchell and a handful of MWA insiders, dubbed "The Gang of Four," have struck a deal with Representative Pat Williams. MWA says it supports 2.5 million acres, but it doesn't. The Gang of Four has stated that they will be happy with 1.3 million acres! (The Gang of Four are Helena politicos drawn to the wilderness issue because it is hot in current Montana politics. They wouldn't know backcountry unless it became upscale, moved to Helena, and made the right contacts.)

The MWA membership has not been informed of this deal. In fact, when MWA's governing body, the MWA Council, has taken action more assertive than steps supported by the Gang of Four, the Gang (some who aren't even elected members of the Council) has overturned the Council's decisions!

Last spring, for example, when the Williams bill was introduced, the MWA Council unanimously voted to issue a press release saying they could not support the bill because it did not contain enough acreage. MWA President Elaine Snyder and Gatchell blocked that press release.

Then, in the fall, when the Montana Wilderness Bill was about to be passed by the House and transferred to the Senate, the MWA Council voted to publicly request Montana Senator John Melcher, a staunch wilderness foe, to introduce the Citizen's Alternative, Alternative W. MWA has never before been this assertive. Asking Melcher to introduce a popular wilderness bill would have put the heat on this infamous waterboy for Burlington Northern, Champion International, and other timber corps(e). The Council chose this action over Gatchell's proposal to merely ask Melcher for more public hearings (a useless strategy, as Montana has had hearings *ad nauseum* on this issue over the last five years).

What happened? The Gang chickened out. When the Williams bill passed the House, MWA held a press conference ... and asked Melcher for more public hearings.

Most MWA Council members are asleep at the switch. The Gang and Gatchell routinely overturn their decisions, and Council members feel powerless to stop them. Some have even convinced themselves the Council's decisions *should* be overturned when Gatchell, Snyder and the Gang of Four determine them to be "politically unrealistic."

Snyder and the Gang ran MWA's December convention with an iron fist. Snyder told every candidate for Council positions that no seconding speeches would be allowed. However, although pro-wilderness Council candidates were indeed denied seconding speeches, pro-Gang candidates were allowed such speeches. In a heated race for vice-president, the Gang decided that candidates would not be allowed to give their speeches until *after* all ballots had been turned in!

The scenario for the future? The safe bet is that the Gang of Four will congratulate themselves for securing protection of 1.3 million acres (and destruction of 7.7), and will move on to another sexy political cause. Their boy Gatchell will take a cushy field office job for Representative Pat Williams.

Thankfully, however, the double-crossing has created bad feelings. MWA could destroy itself.

Or, the utopian dream: The Gang of Four could be purged and the Montana Wilderness Association could stand for wilderness, as it did so proudly in the past.

More will be told as the story unfolds....

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Don't leave the fate of Montana wildlands up to the politicians in the MWA and the Montana Congressional delegation. Write your senators and representatives (senators, Senate, Wash., DC 20510; representative, House of Representatives, DC 20515) and ask them to introduce legislation which would protect all 9 million acres of eligible federal roadless areas in Montana.

ROSELLE JAILED IN SOUTH DAKOTA!

Well, Roselle has done it again--that is, butted heads with the law and found himself in the clink. A Greenpeace action protesting the government's lack of action on the acid rain crisis brought the sharp backhand of injustice swinging back at the protesters. On January 25, a South Dakota judge sentenced Mike Roselle and four other Greenpeace activists to 30 days in jail and 2 years federal probation for the October 22 hanging of a banner on Mt. Rushmore. The banner proclaimed "We the People Say No to Acid Rain" and was to have included a gas mask on George's mug had the caper been completed. But, as happens sometimes even when the cause is noble, the moment went awry and the crew was busted on the mountain and thrown at the (questionable) mercy of a Rapid City federal magistrate. The unduly harsh sentence is yet another example of attempts to infringe on first amendment rights of non-violent protesters.

Mike and his cohorts will be in the county jail until the end of February. Anyone who would like to write to him, please do:

Mike Roselle
Pennington County Jail Annex
300 Kansas City St.
Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

For information or for messages for Mike, call Karen Pickett at (415) 376-7329.

Letters . . .

Continued from page 3

Sierra Club, Desert Protection League, Desert Protective Council — praising BLM for its prompt action in dealing with the AMA.

What did the AMA do and what penalty did it pay? It graded a new road 5 plus miles across the desert more than 11 days before the end of a public review period for a BLM document that proposed doing the same thing. A difference is that BLM suggested carving a 6-8' wide road and AMA actually carved a 12' wide road. Not only that, AMA even called it a "road," whereas BLM claimed no one would mistake it for a "road." AMA labeled it Hammel Highway, raising a finger to BLM and the public.

BLM knew that AMA had violated the public process (if they didn't, then they look like even worse fools because the offended land lies astride main routes through the desert close to population centers). BLM was a hopeful participant, hopeful that the road wouldn't be discovered before the agency could actually approve it.

So what did BLM do to get the approval of the defenders of the desert? They fined the AMA $1800. (fictional [?] scenario: Gerald Hillier [BLM] to Rick Hammel [AMA] — I'm sorry Rick but we have to fine you. How much can you come up with? How about $5 Jerry? Now Rick, I don't think we can buy many conservationists with $5, so you have to do better. How about $1 for each participant? Well, Rick that might be a tad obvious, so let's settle for $1.25 per head. That won't hurt you and we can buy the critics off. To make it look solid, we'll tack on a couple of other minor items: You won't get your 5-year permit this year — we'll give it to you next year when the fuss has died. In addition you will have to sprinkle seeds of native plants on the wrecked land and we will all pretend the damage has been reclaimed. It works every time because by the time it can be proved that this doesn't work, we'll have you established on another route.)

In the dust of this tawdry affair, I find only one consolation: Earth First! put a barrier in front of the fuckers. It only slowed them down 13 minutes, but all the conservation organizations had

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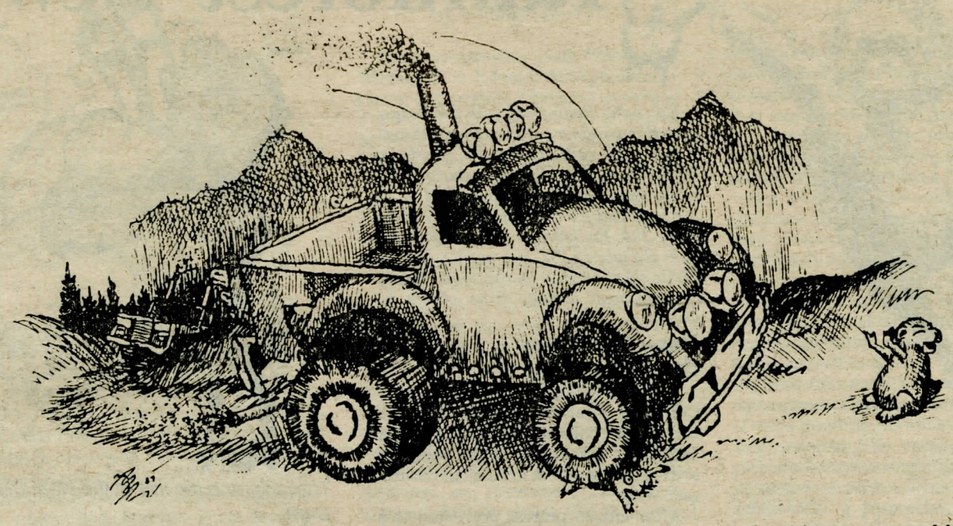
The Hydra Comes to Colorado

by T.O. Muerte



Northwest Colorado is our outback: far horizons, pinyon and juniper, endless stark hills. It's dry and high, hot in summer, down to -60 wind-chill with a Wyoming wind in January. Spectacular canyons on the Green and Yampa Rivers in Dinosaur National Monument draw the floaters, but on millions of acres roundabout there is blessed little to attract humans. Some ranches, small towns along highway 40 — Maybelle, Lay, Massadona, Dinosaur. Mostly it's BLM land. A far place, the kind a Neanderthal needs to get lost in now and then.

We went back this fall, across the great empty basin of Sand Wash, past antelope, wild horses, to regard the wild panorama at sunset from Lookout Mountain (only a Class IV Visual Resource Management rating). We went to witness the First Annual Colorado High Desert 300 International Championship Series ORV Race.

Put another monkeywrench on your calendars, earthlings. On September 12, we watched from Dry Ridge as a monstrous dust cloud rose over Sand Wash. Industrial imperialism had come to the outback: Nissan, Goodyear, Ford, Coke, Coors, McDonald's, a thousand machines. Like seeing the Alien burst out from a Georgia O'Keeffe.

The "sport" of big-time ORV racing entered Colorado as the newest of eight races in the International Championship Series. The prime mover was the president and founder (1977) of the High Desert Racing Association (HDRA), Walter Lott of Las Vegas, with backing from Adolph Coors Brewing Company.

Garage-built Baja Bugs have given way to $50,000 custom pick-ups, teams of mechanics, and computerized scoring to hold fan and media interest. Lott says, "I think we're on the threshold of the big thing I've wanted and that's recognition. We've got the TV coverage and TV people asking for a lot more."

Drivers are folk heroes. "He has a great smile, wears a cowboy hat ... His name is Walker Evans and his action is wheeling a thunder wagon anyplace where there is dirt." Evans, though, "is not a man of single dimension. His hobbies include motorcycle and snowmobile riding at his cabin in Utah with the likes of Parnelli Jones and the Unser brothers." He has "built a revolutionary new Dodge featuring a completely pressurized cab with air conditioning. He feels that the desert dust can hinder a driver's ability to concentrate."

Craig, population 10,905, lies on highway 40 in the broad valley of the Yampa River 45 miles east of Sand Wash. One of the area's two giant coal-fired generating plants sits just outside town, de facto cathedral of the local culture. This is a fossil fuel colony of the empire. Community shakers are fully absorbed in the game of Scrambling for Dollars, which passes everywhere for planning. In the week before the race, the IRG and the CPC (Industrial Recruitment Group and Craig Promotional Committee) hit the city and county for funds to boost economic development.

In an ironic twist on environmentalists' appeals to the stability and diversity of a recreation-based economy, the HDRA was warmly embraced by Craig. The Holiday Inn served as race headquarters. The local Coors distributor put "Welcome HDRA" banners on everything from the Safeway to the Cattleman's Liquor Store. The *Northwest Colorado Daily Press* said, "Welcome racers, fans ... Please help us in the effort to make this an annual event...." The paper praised organizers and BLM officials "for bringing something new and exciting to the local economy." The CPC Monthly Shopper waxed elegiac: "Few men have ever had a greater love and appreciation of the beauty of the American West than Walt Lott."

Rural Moffat County has been referred to as the bioregion of the Posse Comitatus. Outside Craig, the imperial graziers dominate. Ranchers have outlasted coal, oil shale and oil booms. Now they've organized against the Hydra, sounding like enviros in lengthy comments on the BLM's environmental assessment (EA), and mounting a court challenge, which failed to secure an injunction against the race.

The five livestock operators in the Sand Wash area figured that if they went out of business "it would mean a loss of $4.1 million to this economy annually ... 33,000 sheep which means $100 income derived per ewe per year, 2000 cows at $4000 per calf per year. If 80% of this money were to turn five times in this community it would mean a loss of $16.4 million annually." They obviously need a session with Lynn Jacobs.

Other local protests came from an outfitter and a taxidermist. "Elk and antelope herds have been carefully managed to produce quality trophy animals. Hunters applying for these 'draw only' tags have in some cases waited as long as 6 years for the opportunity to hunt these quality areas." Bowhunters were incensed that the races were not rescheduled out of their season. "The 25 waterholes listed in the EA may not seem significant to you but they are very significant to those of us who use them for hunting." Never in the process did anyone refer even obliquely to the will of the land.

The Natural Resources Defense Council, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other outsiders also commented on the EA. The race course passed through a proposed ACEC (Area of Critical Environmental Concern) and next to an RNA (Research Natural Area). The ACEC contains four state and regionally rare plants, two of which occur in Colorado only on this site. Also present is an A-1 ranked critical national concern plant association. Questions over impacts on wild horses, indigenous species, soils, cultural and paleontological "resources" were tossed about as recklessly as PhDs. The mitigation plan to flag cultural and sensitive plant sites was termed by West Slope Sierra Clubber Mark Pearson, "The Pot Hunting and ORV Spectacular." The BLM decided the LSRA RMP (new plan) would modify the VFMP (old plan) to leave most of Sand Wash (146,000 of 154,000 acres) open to ORVs.

Upon Roy Jackson, the BLM's Little Snake Resource Area manager, fell the burden of judgment. Multiple (maximal) use won. "Under the No Action Alternative, the recreation-oriented user public would be prevented from enjoying or engaging in what would have been a significant new recreation opportunity that has not been previously available in the region; this would constrict the spectrum of recreation opportunities ..." Deathless prose and knell of death in one swell foop.

Craig has been jilted by HDRA. The Colorado 300 will take place in September of 88 near the Book Cliffs around Grand Junction, far to the south of Craig and near the Utah border. Community leaders estimate Craig thus loses $500,000 in business. BLM is virtually assuring organizers that a permit is forthcoming for the new site; though, strangely, the Moab BLM District demurred, as ORV racing is not in their land use plan.

The Hare and Hound motorcycle and ATV race is still on for Sand Wash for Labor Day 88. Thus we want to get people into the outback this spring and summer to plan for thwarting this invasion. Contact Colorado EF!, Box 1166, Boulder 80306.

T.O. Muerte is a leader of CO EF! and EF!'s Direct Action group.

Kalmiopsis Fire: The Reality and the Politics

by The Captain

Fire has played a critical role in the natural history of southwest Oregon forests. For thousands of years, lightning-caused fires periodically swept through sections of forest, creating openings which gave fire adapted and pioneer species opportunities to reproduce. For instance, the endemic Kalmiopsis plant, for which the Wilderness is named, depends on fire to provide suitable habitat by thinning the forest canopy. In many areas, fires underburned; low growing vegetation burned while the thick fire resistant bark of centuries old trees protected them from the flames. This is what gives the high, closed canopy, scattered undergrowth character to the old growth forests of the North Kalmiopsis. Large stands of Douglas Fir, one of the dominant conifers of southwest Oregon mountains, such as the Siskiyous, often indicate a past fire. Much of the flora has adapted to a fire regime through various strategies such as resprouting from underground burls and bulbs, and the utilization of fire for seed dispersal and germination. So, while some species temporarily decline, others benefit by the creation of more suitable habitat.

In the past 70 years, however, humans have viewed wildfires in southern Oregon as catastrophes. This has led to a continuing and massive fire suppression effort. The result has been the build-up of deadwood fuel to abnormally high levels.

On August 30 hundreds of lightning strikes caused fires across California and Oregon. One of those fires was in the North Kalmiopsis roadless area. It became one of the largest forest fires in recent Oregon history, burning for over two months before rain finally extinguished it. An estimated 96,000 acres were affected. Nightly, during the fire, TV newscasts would lead-off with new figures for acreage consumed by the flames. This superficial, somewhat hysterical coverage fed the public misconception of wildfires in these mountains — reinforcing the image of a charred wasteland devoid of life. The reality is very different. Looking at the rich green slopes of old growth across from Silver Creek deep in the North Kalmiopsis, there is no hint that this is part of the so-called charred remains of the fire. Walking through the forest, however, you see that the fire has indeed been here, creeping through the understory, recycling nutrients, reducing competition, actually increasing the overall health of the forest. While there were "hot spots," most of the old growth forest remained undamaged. In fact the Forest Service estimates only about 6000 acres in the North Kalmiopsis burned hot enough to kill large trees. Even this amount of acreage is higher than might have been expected if such vigorous fire suppression had not taken place over the past half century.

While the diversity of the North Kalmiopsis will benefit, if left alone, from this natural event, there is another side to the story, a sinister and political side. The Southern Oregon Resource Alliance, a timber lobby, has capitalized on the fire by falsely portraying the area as a blackened moonscape. This industry group hopes to deceive elected representatives and the public, to force immediate roading of Bald Mountain and the North Kalmiopsis. Recently, the extreme rape and run wing of this group ran a series of full page newspaper ads which talk about "the once beautiful forest" that has been destroyed in this catastrophe. The ad shows pictures of burned forest including one picture that looks strangely like a clearcut that has been broadcast burned. This is the first time the bastards have called the North Kalmiopsis a beautiful forest. The ad instructs the public that roads are needed to enhance wildlife, fisheries and forest. This sudden concern for the ecosystem is heartwarming, and of course unrelated to windfall profits from liquidation of the public forest. Interestingly, the areas that seem to have fared the worst in the fire were roaded conifer plantations. Lack of species and age diversity, coupled with the small size of the stands, caused these timber units to go up like roman candles. This is of no consequence to the timber industry here because sustained yield is not important to firms timber mining public land.

The Forest Service has, as usual, sided with the timber industry. Even while announcing that they would conduct an environmental analysis (EA) of the fire to determine whether or not logging was appropriate for the steep slopes of the North Kalmiopsis, Forest Service personnel involved in the EA were saying the area "can and should be logged." It is apparent that the Siskiyou National Forest managers will approve roading and logging this spring without an environmental impact statement. If any group dares threaten a lawsuit over this farce, the big lie policy of Senator Mark Hatfield will likely come into effect. The patron saint of logging company CEOs, Hatfield has adopted a novel approach in dealing with forest destruction and land abuse due to logging. He simply writes special legislation exempting the offending agency from legal appeals. For example, when National Wildlife Federation et al won a court case halting further annihilation of the remaining shards of forest on the Mapleton District of the Siuslaw National Forest, Hatfield wrote legislation making the illegal pillage legal. In another instance, when it appeared the Bureau of Land Manglement might be taken to court over illegal abuse of forest in southern Oregon, Hatfield attached legislation to a last minute spending bill exempting BLM timber sales from environmental review for the following year. These actions are outgrowths of the Oregon Wilderness Bill, the pertinent section being known as "release language," or the big lie. If the destruction of the North Kalmiopsis is challenged in court, we can expect Hatfield to introduce legal relief for the timber nazis.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Pray for ecological jihad.

Rainforest News

Ed. note: Beginning with this issue, we will include a column on rainforest issues. This will replace the quarterly World Rainforest Reports which previously we placed in our pages. Most of the material for this column will come from the Rainforest Action Network (300 Broadway, SF, CA 94133), but we invite short articles on rainforest issues or rainforest ecology from others as well.

Dam Threatens the River Kwai

The Nam Choan project — a dam over the River Kwai — is "on" in Thailand, and in the balance lies the future of Thailand's only two wildlife reserves and the richest forest in mainland Southeast Asia.

After citizen protest prevented this project in 1982, all appeared quiet on the rainforest front. However, Thailand's Electrical Generating Authority (EGAT) broke the silence on March 26, 1986, by reintroducing the plan, which would be partially financed by Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, a Japanese investment firm. Outraged Thai are organizing to permanently retire this disastrous idea.

Joining the Thai to voice their fear and loathing of the Nam Choan project are an international cast of environmental luminaries — including Prince Phillip of England and Russell Train, both with the World Wildlife Fund — engineering firms, and human and animal rights groups. They express shock at the idea of flooding the "single most biologically rich area in all of mainland Southeast Asia."

The two sanctuaries to be flooded, Thung Yai and Huai Kha Khaeng, have a combined area of 4831 square kilometers — the largest protected area in SE Asia. Sheltered in this sanctuary are more than 350 species of birds, including two species nearing extinction: the Green Peafowl and Stumptailed Macaw. Five species of monkeys inhabit the forest canopies, as do langurs, gibbons and Slow Lorises. On the dark forest floor are Tigers, Cloud Leopards, Sun Bears, tapirs, and Asiatic Elephants — most of these species facing extinction.

Besides destroying rainforest and riverine habitat, the large reservoir behind the Nam Choan dam would form an access corridor, opening the sanctuary to illegal settlers, loggers and those seeking animal skins and tusks. The dam would flood 223 square kilometers of forest where the Karen and Hmong tribes live, forcing them to resettle, yet would supply only 2% of Thailand's energy!

Thailand and the site of the Nam Choan Dam

With more than 85% of its forests destroyed, Thailand's periodic drought, starvation and catastrophic flooding are largely attributable to this widespread deforestation. Yet, despite this and a recent expose showing that EGAT had illegally built roads into the sanctuary — roads that immediately resulted in endangered species poaching, illegal logging and mining operations — the government seems committed to the project.

You can help change this. The Thai government is accepting public comment on the Nam Choan project. Polite letters will have an impact on this tourist-oriented country. Write: H.E. Gen. Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister, Government House, Bangkok 10300, THAILAND; and President, Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, 1-4-1 Ote-machi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100, JAPAN.

—Denise Voelker

Can You Tan at Yucatan?

Driving down Mexico's East Coast, in a corridor between lush tropical forest and turquoise sea, you can guess the word which best describes Mexico's plans for this area: tourism. With a failing peso and high foreign debt, Mexico is pinning its economic hopes on the attraction of their powder-white sand beaches and garden-like reefs off the Yucatan Peninsula. Yet they are letting an Alabama gravel firm blow up part of the area.

Vulcan Materials of Birmingham has collaborated with a Mexican construction firm to establish a 5000-acre quarry, 50 miles south of Cancun. The limestone of this area is dynamited into small pieces and used for roadbeds. Local environmentalists protesting the gravel quarry feel this extraction method harms the fragile reefs and rainforest.

"The standard procedure for this type of excavation is dynamite," says Dr. Snedaker, biologist at the University of Miami. "Not only does this produce great amounts of silt that will kill the offshore reefs, but the company plans to dredge a deep-water port to ship the gravel to the US."

The reefs off the Yucatan are among the most diverse ecosystems on the planet. They are the nurseries and feeding-grounds for lobsters and fish, and provide an economic base through local fishing, tourism and sport-diving industries.

"Maybe tourism is a double-edged sword," said Susan Canpos, vice-president of the Grupo Ecologista del Mayab (GEMA), "but dynamiting and excavating over 5000 acres of shoreline will leave us no choices for the future."

GEMA is a Mexican environmental organization struggling in a "David and Goliath" battle against the powerful American firm. To date, they have received no reply to their calls or letters to Vulcan Materials. "There are no environmental safeguards, the area is already being exploited very quietly," says Ms. Canpos.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write: Oficina Estatal de Turismo, Av. Tulum No. 22, Gobierno del Estado, Cancun, Q.R. 77500, MEXICO; and FONATUR, Fondo Nacional De Fomento Al Turismo, Tulum y Coba, Cancun, Q.R. 77500, MEXICO; and Herb Sklenar, President, Vulcan Materials, POB 7497, Birmingham, AL 35253.

—Denise Voelker

Coke Plans Fizzle in Belize

Citing changes in the world orange juice market and their inability to obtain political risk insurance, Coca-Cola Foods has announced that they are placing their project in Belize on indefinite hold. (See Beltane 87 for background.)

That's the good news. The bad news is that Coke's going to sell the farm.

By their own admission, Coke's citrus project did not require all 196,000 acres that they purchased. They plan to divest themselves of most of their Belize holdings, which, depending on who eventually buys the land, could present more problems than promise for Belize.

To keep the option of future citrus development open, Coca-Cola will retain 50,000 acres in the Hill Bank area. Yet Coke has generously donated 40,000 acres of beautiful sub-tropical moist forest to the Belize and Massachusetts Audubon Societies. These two groups are working now to buy an adjacent 110,000-acre parcel of tropical forest to create a park. The management program for this preserve has been "kicked-off" with a grant of $50,000 from the Coca-Cola Foundation. Coke also plans to donate 1700 acres for a tapir breeding area, to be established in conjunction with the Belize Zoo.

Of the remaining 104,300 acres, Coke is donating 10,000 to the Belizean government to establish small farms. The government will lease the land to farmers, encouraging crop diversification and sustainable farming. Coke reports that 94,300 acres — habitat for the Jaguar, Howler Monkey, and tapirs — will be sold to the highest bidder, regardless of the bidder's development intentions.

Obviously, Coke is under no *legal* obligation to care whether the property is made a wildlife preserve, or sold to a couple of Texans for cattle fodder. But do they not have a *moral* obligation to protect the land?

Your letter to Coke might help convince Coke to hold out for what's best for the planet — instead of for the best price. Please write: Michele Beale, Coca-Cola Foods, POB 2079, Houston, TX 77252.

—Denise Voelker

Malaysia Update

As reported last issue, several Malaysian environmental activists and

The Killing of Costa Rica's Caribbean Coral Reefs

by Steve Robinson

Editor's note: The following report is condensed from an article in Sea Wind, *the bulletin of the International Marinelife Alliance (IMA). The article is based on a survey by IMA Field Director Steve Robinson. IMA is a non-profit group concerned with protecting and restoring marine environments, and enhancing the life of Third World persons whose livelihoods depend on the sea. IMA notes that conservation work and budgets have concentrated on land and freshwater problems; they hope to correct the imbalance. To join and receive the bulletin, send $15 to: IMA, 2883 Otterson Dr, Ottawa, Ontario, KIV 7B2, Canada.*

The first white explorer to discover this country, Christopher Columbus in 1502, was so impressed with the richness and diversity of the Atlantic coast near Limon that he named it "Costa Rica" or Rich Coast. It was this richness that led to the establishment of Cahuita National Park 469 years later.

As the entire coral reef system of Costa Rica's Atlantic side is only 22 kilometers long, the establishment of this park was important to ensure the perpetuation of the country's Caribbean marine life. The high productivity of the area's coral reef colonies gave rise to thriving populations of lobsters, turtles, Red Coral Crabs, Queen Conches, Helmut Shells, food fishes of all kinds, especially snappers, basses, and jacks, and concentrations of the colorful tropical fishes popular in the world aquarium trade.

However, in the last few years, ecological devastation has gained momentum throughout the entire coral reef complex and shows no signs of abating. Our recent survey found that 90% of the gorgonians (*Gorgonia flabellum* and *G. ventalina*) and 80% of the hard, reef building corals were dead. As the percentage of living coral cover on a reef is the primary determinant of productivity and variety in fish and invertebrate populations, the continuing loss of living coral cover is an environmental and social tragedy. The diminution of sustenance-giving sea life is being felt by residents all along the Talamanca Coast.

Interviews with local fishermen revealed an incredible disparity between fish catches in the 1970s and fish catches today. Ten years ago, fishermen would catch several kinds of jacks (*Caranx* sp.) with machetes, wading silently and chopping them as they swam by chasing the ever abundant shoals of sardines driven to the shallows by their predators. Today sardines exist in a fraction of their former numbers, their fortunes declining commensurate with the decline of coral reef plankton productivity.

Equally disturbing during this survey was the scarcity of groupers and basses, significant predators on any healthy reef system. One small Jewfish (*Epinephelus itajara*) was encountered off Punta Mona. One Black Grouper (*E. bonaci*) off Manzanillo was seen, as were two Rock Hinds (*E. adscensionis*). The only basses surviving in any numbers are the Coneys (*E. fulvus*). Populations of snappers — another group of food fishes important to local people — have also plummeted.

Another traditional food of coastal people in the region has been the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*). Divers tell of congregations of this mollusc carpeting the sandy bottoms at almost any depth in "the old days." During the survey only one specimen of this slow growing snail was found.

What do the next ten years hold in store for the people of the Talamanca Coast? The loss of traditional livelihood that the sea has largely provided will exacerbate the exodus to already crowded cities, where jobs are scarce and where the cash economy replaces the more self-sufficient one of the coast.

The people's and reef's demise is being engineered by the kind of upland agricultural and forestry practices that have produced the same consequences in countries throughout the world. Erosion on a massive scale from banana plantations and timber clearing has produced such an accumulation of silt and mud in the Rio Sixaola and the Rio La Estrella, as well as in smaller creeks, that the coral colonies along the coast are being smothered, their natural ability to absorb the run-off exceeded. Nineteen kilometers out of Costa Rica's 22 kilometers of coastal reef lie between the Estrella and Sixaola Rivers. The coral reefs of Talamanca Coast are some of the worst this author has seen outside of the silted, cyanided, and dynamited reefs of the Philippines.

In 1979, then-President Rodrigo Carazo was given the news that the

continued on page 9

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Stopping a Waste Dump — Spanish Style

by Mary Davis

Editor's note: The following article, which provides a bit of good news in the usually grim field of European environmentalism, serves as a prelude to a longer article being written by the author discussing eco-sabotage in Europe.

This past summer near the 60 villages in the Spanish department of Salamanca, scarecrows hung from powerlines. They wore business suits and carried briefcases. Next to each hung a sign, "This was a member of ENRESA [the Spanish nuclear waste agency], who tried to build a waste dump here."

"Tried" was the right word. October 16 the Spanish government announced that it was withdrawing its plan to build a laboratory to test high-level radioactive waste storage near the Salamancan village of Aldeadavila. The government said the withdrawal was caused by a lack of funding from the European Economic Community. However, as the Community had pledged in December to pay half the cost, a more likely cause was the opposition of neighboring Portugal and of local residents.

The Salamancans learned about the project from the Portuguese press in February. They feared that the laboratory would become a permanent repository and would contaminate the Duero River less than a kilometer away. They also resented what they felt was the central government's contempt for the rural area.

In March the villagers formed an anti-nuclear coordinating committee, *Coordinadora Antinuclear del Bajo Duero*. This committee took advantage of an existing network based on rural schools with contacts in each village. The villagers were accustomed to holding general meetings on the schools. The coalition also used general assemblies in the villages.

The first major action arose spontaneously. The Spanish government had refused to furnish information on the laboratory. When villagers spotted the vice president of the departmental Diputacion visiting the area to inspect projects, they rushed to the Aldeadavila town hall to question him. The questioning lasted two nights and a day, because those present decided, in a general assembly, not to let the man go. As people from other villages learned from radio and TV of the detention, they hastened to Aldeadavila. Finally there were 15,000 people packed into the village. They waved their fists, clapped, and chanted "We want life and not the shit." Bells rang constantly; nobody worked. Riot police, firing rubber bullets, had to break down the door of the city hall to free the official.

"The action and the police violence united the people," Jaume Morron of WISE-Tarragona reports. Many of the villagers then traveled to the city of Salamanca, where they demonstrated 10,000 strong.

A month after the detention of the official, a leader of the anti-nuclear coalition was summoned to appear before a court to be charged with the "crime." To save him, his neighbors chained him to a tree outside the courthouse so that he was not free to enter. They then informed the judge that they were all guilty — that the judge should call the whole region into court, because all had favored the detention.

In May a tower holding up a 400,000 volt power line was dynamited. Nobody knew who did it, but for several weeks villagers prevented repairmen from reaching the scene. Also in May, 20,000 people joined in the largest demonstration ever held in Salamanca.

In June, elections to the city councils and the European Parliament were made a part of the anti-nuclear campaign. City council candidates were asked to sign a paper promising to resign if they could not stop the dump. They signed. Voters in the European elections were asked to cast ballots saying "No Nuclear" instead of the name of a candidate. "No Nuclear" won by a landslide.

The big event for July was the running of a 200-kilometer relay from Aldeadavila to the castle where the regional parliament was meeting. The runners each carried a message on the dump. Police allowed them to proceed to the castle, but stopped cars and buses of supporters eight kilometers from the site. Undeterred, 2000 people walked to the building.

August was the month of meetings, parties, concerts. Video tapes were a prime educational tool. Photos of officials were accompanied by punk Spanish music, "I'm going to dance on your tomb," and, less elegantly, "You are going to die while the disc jockey is laughing, and I am going to cut your neck with the record."

Throughout the campaign, close cooperation showed itself in major events and in informal actions. One Sunday a small group closed the road to Portugal for a few hours. They piled tires on the road, poured gasoline on them, and set them afire. The police could not go near the clouds of black, toxic smoke. Passersby soon spread the word to other villages, and tires burned throughout the area until midnight. While the fires burned, the people held meetings.

Whatever was afoot, "the people knew," Morron reports. In every bar there was a can into which people dropped money to pay for the campaign.

The region celebrated the government's October decision with fireworks and champagne. Unfortunately, the government may simply move the project to an area where the people are more apathetic, but scenic Salamanca has been spared.

Perhaps now Salamancan villagers will try to oust the uranium mines and the fuel fabrication plant, built before Spain was a democracy. In any case, Morron predicts, the actions against the waste brought the people together. "Life will never be the same there again."

For information on how to help anti-nuclear activities in this region, write: WISE-Tarragona, Apartat De Correus 741, 43080 Tarragona, Spain.

Mary Davis is a freelance writer specializing in US and European nuclear issues.

42 members of the Penan and other rainforest tribes on Borneo were arrested for blockading logging roads. The tribal people and their lawyer have now been released. The trial date for the 42 is October 31, 1988. There is hope that the other activists might be released early in 1988.

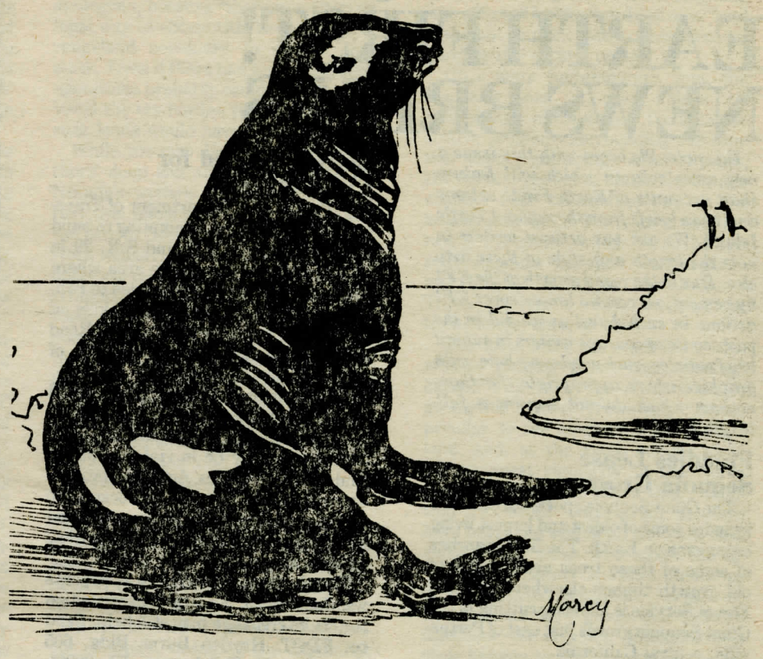
—Rainforest Action Network

Garbage In Sea Kills Millions

Editor's note: The following article is extracted from information distributed by California Coastweek, a group which operates recycling centers, and conducts research and public education projects. This article helps show the need for increased direct action on the oceans, such as that carried out last summer when Sea Shepherd Society, in effect, chased the Japanese drift-netters out of the North Pacific (see Mabon 87).

The Marine Mammal Commission recently stated: "On a global scale it is possible that the loss of marine animals to discarded netting, plastic and styrofoam is as great as the loss to oil and chemical pollution." There is currently no law to prohibit the dumping of ship garbage more than three miles off our coasts. Of the 64,000 ship dockings in the US last year, only 1800 disposed of their garbage properly at the dock. The rest dumped it into the oceans.

Scientists have found that the main killer of sea turtles is no longer poachers but plastic waste. Turtles confuse plastic bags with their food source, jelly fish, and die a painful death after swallowing such waste. Similarly, whales often die from ingesting plastic or becoming entangled in ghost nets (discarded drift-nets).



Drift-nets and gill nets kill hundreds of thousands of marine animals each year. These 6-30 mile long nets kill almost every creature that comes into contact with them. The 700 squid boats in the North Pacific are thought to have killed over 50,000 marine animals during this year's 30-day squid harvesting season.

Birds often inadvertently strangle themselves in six-pack rings. Countless seabird chicks starve after their parents die in fishing nets. An albatross was recently seen feeding plastic and styrofoam to its young.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: 1) Avoid buying plastic and styrofoam containers. 2) Use your own mug when getting coffee to go, instead of using styrofoam. 3) Bring your own bags to stores or ask for paper bags when offered plastic. 4) Tell restaurants which use styrofoam that paper cartons are less environmentally harmful. 5) Boycott plastic beverage containers. 6) Write to decision makers to ask them to help stop the killing: In 1973 the International Convention for Prevention of Pollution from Ships was enacted. Twenty-six sea-faring nations have signed this treaty — but not the US. Only two more nations must sign before it will prohibit ocean dumping of ship garbage. The Reagan administration supports the treaty, but the Senate has not ratified it. Urge your senators, and the influential senators Richard Lugar and Claiborne Pell, to ratify this treaty. Also urge senators to support S 62, which will restrict killing caused by drift-nets. Write representatives urging them to support HR 537, and to support the intent of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. California residents should also write to Governor Deukmejian (State Capitol Bldg, Sacramento, CA 95814). Protest his recent veto of AB 780, a bill instructing the State Department of Conservation to determine the environmental impacts of plastic/styrofoam debris and to instruct the legislature on ways to rid the environment of such debris. 7) Physically remove trash from beaches and ocean waters. 8) For more information, contact Sonoma County Coastweek, POB 1375, Santa Rosa, CA 95402.

Sea World Kidnaps Whales

On October 14, 1986, Sea Shepherd Society was tipped off by an anonymous informant that Sea World was in Iceland capturing Orcas without a permit. Soon we would learn that Sea World kidnapped five young Orcas, in violation of National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) rules requiring a permit to import cetaceans into the US.

Sea World planned to fly the whales to Canada and obtain a permit "after the fact" but before initiating them into their captive breeding program. Since the Orcas are so young, Sea World could sit on them until the storm blows over. That storm was caused by the Sea Shepherd, which brought press coverage to the capture.

Denying Sea Shepherd's charges, a Sea World spokesman stated, "We are not collecting Killer Whales for any Sea World Park. We are taking photographic surveys of whales all over the world."

Why then did Sea World truck five Orcas to an aquarium outside Reykjavik, Iceland? Why did they create a dummy corporation called FAUNA to run the operation?

One thing is true about Sea World's statement: They are all over the world. Recently, Sea World was in Japan, where they collected twice the number of False Killer Whales that their permit allowed. Of the 12 captured, three are dead (one in transit, two from hepatitis). Our informant thinks the five Orcas will end up in Holland via a long and stressful air route to avoid inspection by US or Canadian officials.

Sea World is involved in several such scams to avoid permits, which may prevent them from making easy profits. Cetaceans sell for tens of thousands of dollars each. Looking at their prisoners' mortality rates, it is clear that such corporations as Sea World disregard the question of the morality of holding cetaceans captive:

*Worldwide, of the 56 Orcas held captive since 1965, 34 are now dead, despite the longevity of members of this species in the wild.
*Every Orca held by Sea World prior to October, 1976, is dead.
*Of 13 Short Finned Pilot Whales which Sea World has held, 10 are dead.
*Of 89 Atlantic Bottle-nosed Dolphins, 62 are dead.

These deaths are results of neglect, such as: dolphins kept in fresh water; cetaceans subjected to transportation stress; cetaceans held in polluted water and thus dying of hepatitis; and cetaceans stressed to the point of developing intense ulcers and dying. In view of such abuses, Sea Shepherd is determined to abolish the captivity of cetaceans.

—Mark Heitchue

CORAL REEFS . . .

Continued from page 8

corals of Cahuita National Park were being killed by siltation and run-off from the Rio Estrella. The President sent a letter to the manager of the banana complex in the Valle de la Estrella asking him to reduce his company's harmful effects on the Park. To the Park Director, the manager asked, "Do you want to know what I think of this?" He then tore the President's letter in half. Equally dismaying was the President's silence afterwards and the general lack of political will to force the banana company to clean up its act.

Central America needs compromises between banana and timber interests and the less organized interests of people down the river. It is hoped that Costa Rica, with its long tradition of peaceful and democratic institutions, will show the way.

Succinctly Stated
EARTH FIRST! NEWS BRIEFS

Ed. note: We begin with this issue a new news column which will feature short accounts of Earth First! actions and news briefs from throughout Turtle Island. We ask our activist writers to note the length and style of these articles. Due to the rapid growth of the EF! movement, we can no longer cover EF! actions in such detail as we did in the past, so we encourage writers to submit brief articles, such as you see here, with graphics where appropriate, for those actions which do not require a full-length article.

Freddies Lease Sequoia Groves

The Giant Sequoia species of redwood includes some of oldest and largest living organisms on Earth. The first branches of some of these trees are the size of old growth timber elsewhere. Yet the Forest Service is allowing cutting in the Giant Sequoia groves just east of Porterville, central California.

The Forest Service (FS) has been quietly leasing Giant Sequoia groves to lumber companies in the Porterville area. The companies began harvesting a couple years ago. The affected area is mostly east of the Tule River Indian Reservation (Black Mountain, Red Hill, and Peyrone Groves). Supposedly, they're saving the "specimen trees" (those larger than eight feet in diameter) and clearcutting the rest, leaving the solitary giants vulnerable to the winter winds. By May of 1987, the FS had leased timber rights to loggers (Auberry Logs Ltd, Sequoia Forest Industries, and Sequoia Forest Products) in the Converse Grove a mere four miles north of the General Grant Grove! (Incidentally, the Indians have supported the cutting, for the sake of jobs.)

The Sierra Club has sued and has thus tied up nine of the recent leases in a court battle. That, and the winter, gives us some time to plan to save these groves.

For more information, write: J.E. Crates, Forest Supervisor, 900 W Grand Ave, Porterville, CA 93257. Don't waste your time calling; they'll force you to resort to a Freedom Of Information request. Judging by the incomplete reply I received, Crates plans to stonewall, so phrase your questions in the most *simple* terms.

—Bart

Letters Needed for FL Wildlife!

1. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is attempting to build an interchange at I-75 and S.R. 29 in Collier County. This is the area where Alligator Alley is being upgraded to I-75, and where most of the road kills of Florida Panthers have occurred. Road kills are the largest known source of mortality for the Panther.

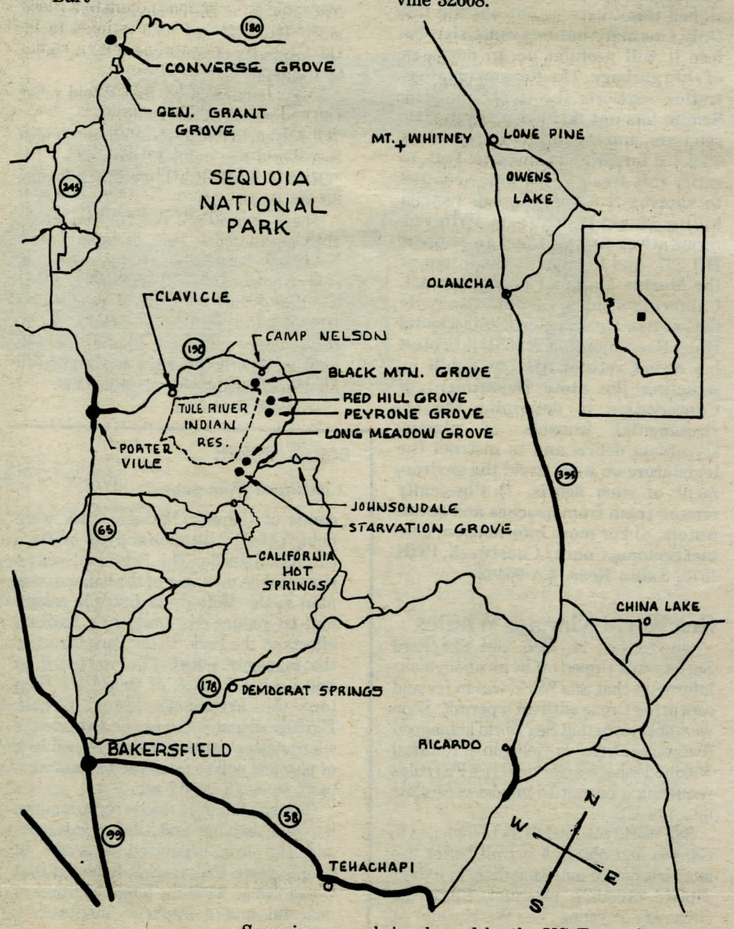
This proposed interchange would greatly increase traffic and road kills of Panthers and other wildlife. The interchange may be in violation of the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act, because no access was supposed to be permitted off I-75 in this area because of its critical wildlife values.

The deadline for written comments was January 29, but letters in opposition to this interchange may still help. Send to: FDOT, Haydon Burns Bldg, 605 Suwannee St, Tallahassee, FL 32301-8064.

2. The state of Florida (Department of Community Affairs) has appealed the Suwannee Trails Camp resort on the banks of the Suwannee River. This is a grand irony because the Florida Audubon Society and some other "environmentalists" have supported this monstrous development. As approved by local and regional authorities, Suwannee Trails would place over 4000 campsites, a golf course, pool, club houses, central water, sewage treatment plant and other buildings on 2800 acres in one of the most important stretches of the Suwannee corridor.

The fate of the Suwannee now rests with Governor Bob Martinez and the Cabinet. The state, in its appeal, might only request a 150-foot buffer from the water's edge instead of the present 75-foot buffer. Sensitive wildlife such as Black Bear, however, require undisturbed riparian corridors at least a mile wide. Write Gov. Bob Martinez, The Capitol, Tallahassee, FL 32399. Ask that the Suwannee Trails development be prohibited. If there is going to be a "buffer" ask that it extend at least one mile from the river (which would effectively preclude the development).

—FL EF!, 6820 SW 78th St, Gainesville 32608.



Sequoia groves being logged by the US Forest Service.

Freddies Propose 15-year Siege on Gifford Pinchot NF

The draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the next Gifford Pinchot National Forest (GPNF) Forest Plan is out and the preferred Forest Service alternative (Alt. K) is nothing less than a declaration of war on biological diversity within this southwestern Washington forest for the duration of the plan (the next 10-15 years). Alternative K, in effect, calls for destruction of old growth forest and its associated fauna, including the Spotted Owl. Biologists agree that the greatest threat to the Spotted Owl is the loss of its habitat to continued logging, yet alternative K would retain only 25% of what little old growth remains (which means 75% goes within the next decade), with continued heavy cutting around *all* of the already puny owl habitat areas (1000-1400 acres; yet ranges of up to 4400 acres may be needed). Historical levels of annual cut will be exceeded by 26%, and new roads will eliminate all but 38% of the forest's "roadless character."

Alternative "I," preferred by the Sierra Club, would exceed historical cut levels by 12% in exchange for a 17% increase in trail maintenance. It would retain only 43% of current roadless areas, 36% of old growth, and minimum habitat requirement for 80 of the 108 Spotted Owl mated pairs.

Alternative J retains the most old growth of any alternative the Freddies offer, 84%. Timber cutting would be reduced to 71% below historical levels, but only 14% of roadless areas would be retained. Trail maintenance would be increased 10%, mainly within roadless areas and the Mt. St. Helens Volcanic Monument.

Alternative C would protect 99% of all roadless areas and eliminate motorized "recreation" in semi-primitive areas. It would retain 75% of old growth, and minimum habitat for 90% of mated Spotted Owls. It would increase trail maintenance by 7%.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

*** The comment period just ended, but comments sent now may still be effective. Express preference for Alternative "C," to preserve roadless areas, but state that C is not good enough. Recommend 100% protection for all roadless areas, old growth, and Spotted Owls. Send cards and letters immediately to: Gifford Pinchot Forest Supervisor, 500 W 12th St, Vancouver, WA 98660.**

*** Some may decide to vote for additional old growth protection with their hammers. Copies of the DEIS are available at the Supervisor's Office (address above) and at the Vancouver Library. Those taking this route need the short form with map packet. The Freddie at the office will ask for name and address, so such persons should have fake ones ready. Maps may not be taken from the library, so if you go there take a GPNF map on which to mark the relevant information. Monkeywrenching has been scarce in the Gifford Pinchot, one of the most productive (plundered) in the US, second only to the Willamette NF in Region 6, so action is critically important.**

—Scrubjay

Canada Ends Seal Hunt

On December 31, 1987, Canadian Justice Minister John Crosbie officially pronounced the end of the commercial sealing industry on Canada's East Coast, saying: "It is with great regret that Canada must reluctantly announce the end to the sealing industry in this country. Due to the pressure from ill-informed conservation organizations, the public pressure, especially from outside of Canada, has forced us to make this decision." It was ironic that Crosbie made the announcement. The Crosbie family fortune was founded on the Newfoundland sealing industry.

Opposition to the seal hunt began in 1964 with the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) under the direction of Brian Davies. Other groups that contributed to the victory were the Fund for Animals, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Action Volunteers for Animals, and the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. The hunt was doomed by the IFAW's success in engineering a ban on seal pelt importation into Europe.

John Crosbie also announced that a planned cull of Grey Seals off the coast of Nova Scotia will be put on hold until 1989 at the earliest.

—Paul Watson

Roy Pocket Gopher Threatened

A unique subspecies of gopher and a rare plant are threatened with extinction because the Manke Lumber Company of Tacoma, Washington, wants cheaper gravel. In the small farming community of Roy, 20 miles southeast of Tacoma, the Roy Pocket Gopher and the White-top Aster have been living unobtrusively on a tiny patch of prairie grassland since the last Ice Age, a situation which will be terminated forever if the bulldozers dig Manke's proposed gravel pit. Though the Manke PR office spouts the usual song and dance about "environmental safeguards," their own environmental impact statement admits the gopher's habitat will be damaged. Dr. Murray Johnson, curator of mammals at the University of Washington, puts it bluntly: "If they take out the relatively small areas where they exist, the subspecies will be destroyed."

It has happened before. The Roy Gopher's cousin, the Tacoma Pocket Gopher, succumbed years ago to traps, pets, and poisons. Few tears were shed for the loss of the little "pest," and we can expect little more sympathy for the Tacoma Gopher's country cousin. Thus the stage is set for a classic confrontation between "an obscure species" (as the *Tacoma News Tribune* dubs it) and economic development.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to the Manke Lumber Company, 1717 Marine View Dr, Tacoma, WA 98422, and insist they stop this project. Write your congresspersons (representative, House of Representatives, DC 20515; senators, Senate, DC 20510) asking that the Roy Pocket Gopher and the White-top Aster be put on the federal list of Endangered Species. Point out that the Northwest is already covered with gaping wounds tapping the glacial till; so why the hell does Manke need another one? Attend the permit hearings scheduled for February 29 (call 206-591-7200 to request time to testify) at the Pierce County Annex, 2401 South 35th St. in Tacoma.

—Captain Beernuts

Projects Protect Sea Turtles

Two projects to preserve sea turtles from harm are under way with help from the Sea Turtle Awareness Center.

At a captive, release sea turtle project in Bahia de los Angeles, Baja, Mexican marine biologist Antonio Resendiz supervises the care of 40 sea turtles, including Pacific Green, Pacific Hawksbill and Loggerheads. In addition to raising individuals to release size, the project on the Sea of Cortez provides beach protection from poachers during the laying season. Poachers raid turtle nests and sell the eggs in Mexico City bars where they are thought to increase sexual potency.

Laura Sarti of the University of Mexico directs a project in a Leatherback Sea Turtle nesting area on the beaches of Michoacan. She and student volunteers protect the eggs at nesting time by camping on the beaches. Before they started, 90% of the turtle eggs laid on Michoacan beaches were stolen for the black market. Now less than 40% are taken.

In addition to providing protection and affording study opportunities, these two projects create environmental education programs involving local residents. The Sea Turtle Center is an international non-profit, membership supported organization. For information about the Sea Turtle Center's efforts, write POB 634, Nevada City, CA 95959.

—Sea Turtle Center

New Mexico Earth First! Protests Overgrazing

December is the month for the annual New Mexico Cattleman's and Livestock Growers Convention in Albuquerque, and this year New Mexico EF! was there to greet the conventioneers with signs, songs, and a skit about "Welfare Ranching." Twenty-five Earth First!ers adorned in wolf, sheep, lion, cow and rancher heads handed out Lynn Jacobs' overgrazing newspaper. A highlight was an updated biocentric version of "This land is my land":

This land ain't your land. This land

ain't my land.
This land is wolf land. This land is wild land.
This land ain't cow land and it sure ain't sheep land.
This land ain't just for you and me.

Ranchers were displeased when we entered the Convention Center, against the wishes of security guards, to perform a skit about native predator extirpation. A crowd gathered and a lively discussion took place. We thank the local news crews for being there to keep the party peaceful. The event followed a rally and dance at the Friends Hall in AllBerserky.

—Rich Ryan

New Mexico EF! Mountain Lion protests NM Cattle Growers' Convention. Photo by Raven.

Airstrip Monkeywrenched

Shearer airstrip lies in the center of Idaho's Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness on a flat beside the Selway River. One mile downriver and four miles upriver are private airstrips; 15 miles downriver is the next Forest Service strip, at Moose Creek Ranger Station.

In the spring of 1983, a mineral lick "occurred" in the middle of the Shearer airstrip, where no lick had been before. The strip was closed for months before the hole caused by the Elk and Mule Deer was filled. Salting was suspected.

In the spring of 1987 a massive salting of the Shearer strip occurred. At regular intervals across the middle of the strip post-holes had been dug, rock salt poured in, and the earth replaced. Deer, Elk, and Moose dug up the earth to reach the salt. The strip was closed. It is still closed.

The Forest Supervisor formed a citizens task force to consider the situation. Four of six members recommended leaving the strip closed permanently. The representatives of the Idaho Aeronautical Board and Idaho Department of Fish & Game want it reopened, as do Selway River float trip outfitters. The Forest Service is considering laying military type steel landing mats across the airstrip.

Shearer airstrip, closed twice by monkeywrenching, should stay closed. This winter Nez Perce Forest Supervisor Tom Kovalicky will give his recommendation to Regional Forester James Overbay in Missoula. Write: James Overbay, Regional Forester, USFS, POB 7669, Missoula, MT 59807; and Tom Kovalicky, Supervisor, Nez Perce National Forest, Grangeville, ID 83530. Tell them that all airstrips in the RNR and Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Areas should be closed.

—a Northwesterner desirous of anonymity

Outfitters Threaten Wilderness Act

A group of horse-pack hunting outfitters in Idaho are challenging the Wilderness Act. After losing their initial appeal, they filed suit against the Frank Church - River of No Return Wilderness (RNR) management plan. In the case, Idaho outfitters and guides et al vs Secretary of Agriculture Ling et al, the outfitters claim a right to permanent camps and caches inside the RNR. This is a previously established use. They were allowed permanent facilities in the Idaho Primitive Area prior to the passage of the Central Idaho Wilderness Act in 1980 which designated the RNR.

The RNR management plan states, "Hunting outfitters have historically selected the 'best' campsite locations with the approval of the district rangers in the outfitter permits. The same sites are used year after year and have tended to evolve into permanent year-round installations."

In other words, tent cities, corrals, picnic tables, outhouses, feed racks and other facilities litter the Wilderness. The management plan calls for "facilities and improvements to be temporary in nature" and says they "must be dismantled when not in use" — "no new caches will be permitted. Existing caches will be phased out...."

After passage of the Wilderness Act in 1964, the Forest Service put together a team to interpret the Act and decide on direction for the agency. It was decided that the Forest Service had no authority under the Wilderness Act to allow continued use of caches. According to Bill Worf, who was part of that Forest Service study group in 1965, the Forest Service could not lose to the outfitters in court.

But now, the Chief of the Freddies, Dale Robertson, is considering reviewing the cache policy and settling out of court! The Idaho Conservation League is looking the other way to try to avoid alienating the outfitters, who are also supporting compromise Wilderness legislation in Idaho. [*ed. note: Governor Cecil Andrus has just announced his agreement with Senator James McClure to support an Idaho Wilderness bill which would designate only 1.3 million of Idaho's 9 plus million acres of undesignated wilderness.*] So, while Cecil Andrus and James McClure stalemate over how much less wilderness Idaho will have, the outfitters continue civilizing it.

If the Freddies back down and allow the outfitters to keep caches, the effect will reach far beyond permanently trashed campsites in the RNR. In other Wilderness Areas — including Idaho's Selway-Bitterroot and Montana's Bob Marshall — Forest Service personnel have worked for years implementing the no cache policy, removing old camp debris, and working with the outfitters to pack their camps out. Their efforts might be undermined by a decision in favor of the RNR outfitters.

Outfitting in Wilderness is a privilege, not a right. Allowing outfitters, or anybody, permanent camps or caches is clearly outside the intent of the Wilderness Act.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write: Dale Robertson, Chief, US Forest Service, POB 2417, Wash., DC 20013; and Maurice Ellsworth, US Attorney, Box 037, Federal Bldg, Boise, ID 83724. Mention pertinent points from the above — no caches, no camps.

—a Northwesterner desirous of anonymity

Ed. note: Earth First! *recognizes the contribution of outfitters to the designation of Wilderness Areas in Idaho and Montana. Nonetheless, we oppose the maintenance of permanent camps, caches, or airstrips in Wilderness, and we hope the outfitters will change their position on this issue.*

FWS Favors Trappers in Kenai

The following news alert comes from the Alaska Wildlife Alliance, POB 190953, Anchorage, AK 99519.

In August 1987, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) distributed a draft "Refuge Furbearer Management Plan" for the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, allegedly seeking public comment. The final plan will affect what happens to "furbearers" on the most heavily used National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska for the next 5-10 years. As is suggested by the term 'furbearer,' the draft plan emphasizes trapping. ("Furbearer" species include the Gray Wolf, Lynx, Wolverine, Marten, Coyote, Beaver, Muskrat, weasel, otter, mink, and fox.) The proposed plan is the first "stepped down" plan from a Comprehensive Conservation Plan for any of the National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska. It will likely establish the pattern for all other similar stepped down plans. The status of several species on the Refuge — primarily wolf, Lynx, Wolverine, and Marten — is already critical.

The FWS received 446 comments from individuals and 21 from groups in response to the original draft plan. Of the individual comments, 421 recommended that the plan be strengthened to protect the Refuge's dwindling small mammal populations. Of the groups, 17 recommended strengthening the plan. Nonetheless, because one of the "groups" opposed to strengthening the plan was the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG), a proponent of maximizing the trapping of Gray Wolves, Lynx and small mammals on the Refuge, and because the few individuals opposed to the plan were primarily local trappers, the FWS withdrew the draft plan!

Instead the FWS held a meeting behind closed doors for representatives of different "public interest" groups — mostly pro-trapping groups — to develop a new plan. The FWS has taken the results of this meeting and developed a "Draft Environmental Assessment for the Kenai NWR Furbearer Management Plan." The new FWS preferred alternative (Alt. B) represents a substantial weakening of the modest protection offered in the original draft plan. To limit further contrary public comment and implement what local trapping interests and ADFG want, the FWS set a 45 day limit on public comments.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Daniel Doshier, Refuge Manager, Kenai NWR, POB 2139, Soldotna, AK 99669, and voice your concern for Kenai's wildlife. Support Alternative D, NO TRAPPING on the Refuge. Comments must be mailed by February 26. Send a copy of your comments to Walter Stieglitz, Regional Director, USFWS, 1011 E Tudor Rd, Anchorage 99503. Write your congresspersons (senators, Senate, DC 20510; representatives, House of Representatives, DC 20515) and ask them to investigate why overwhelming public opinion, originally sought by the FWS, has been ignored.

Freddies Render Comments Meaningless

Editor's note: The following is an update on the battle over the astrophysical observatory proposed by the University of Arizona's Steward Observatory for the top of Mt. Graham in southeastern Arizona. See previous issues, including Yule 87, for more information.

What would you say if a special interest group paid someone to type 200 letters, each allegedly from a different person, and then submitted them as public comments on a proposed Forest Service plan? Would you call it a dishonest attempt at subverting the public input process? Well, if you're a bureaucrat at the Coronado National Forest and that special interest group is the University of Arizona, you would call it 200 concerned citizens expressing their opinions. On the other hand, you would count a petition from the Coalition to Preserve Mt. Graham, with nearly 800 signatures, as *one* opinion.

Freddies have always had a talent for juggling numbers to make the data say whatever they want them to say, but the Coronado bureaucrats have come up with one for the record books with their analysis of public comments on the proposed Mt. Graham Astrophysical Sacrifice Area. In January 1987, shortly after the comment period ended, the Forest Circus announced that 1200 "comments" had been received and that "public opinion was split 50-50" — this despite the petition with 800 signatures as opposed to the 200 letters from a single typewriter. Most of the "pro" letters were written by people who hope to profit from the proposed environmental destruction — astronomers, family members, Safford businessmen. If we disregard those letters from people who wrote for their own pocketbooks, and count only those that address environmental impacts of the proposal, it becomes obvious that the public overwhelmingly opposes building an observatory complex in the Pinaleno Mountains.

I recently discussed this new form of creative mathematics with Coronado Forest planner-analyst Marc (I love special interest groups — that's what makes America great) Kaplan. He explained that, despite how it was presented to the media, this was not a referendum and public opinion will not affect the final decision. Yeah, you heard right. If you signed a NO SCOPES petition or if you wrote a letter saying you prefer a natural Mt. Graham, the Freddies don't care what you think. (Although if your letter addressed a technical or legal point in the plan, it was forwarded to a Forest planner who dreams up "mitigation measures.")

So, what's a poor treehugger to do? Unlike the University, I can't afford to buy an Arizona Congressional delegation to argue my side. How do we make our voice heard?

DIRECT ACTION! Freddie didn't even want to meet with us before we announced plans of our own for road closure and reforestation. They didn't believe there was serious opposition to their development scheme until some astronomers' equipment was "vandalized" (or was it visigothed?).

Years ago there was a running joke in Earth First! that James Watt was our Honorary Membership Chairman. History is repeating itself in Arizona as bureaucrats lock the public out of important decisions. The ranks of Arizona EF! grow as more people realize that mainstream environmental groups have little effect on the extremist policies of the Forest Service. When the public gets shut out of the legal process they will turn to direct action.

—Ned Powell

Was Equipment on Burr Trail Sabotaged?

Since reporting (again) in our last issue on the continuing threat of the paving of the Burr Trail in southern Utah, the courts have stopped construction as a result of an appeal by the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and other conservation groups. The case will be back in the courts in March and a decision whether or not to allow Garfield County to resume construction may be reached within a few months of then.

Letters in opposition to the paving of Burr Trail are still needed. The National Park Service is opposing Garfield County's attempt to use its newly acquired inholding in Capitol Reef Park as a bargaining chip to blackmail the federal government into allocating funds for paving the Burr Trail. However, the Park Service needs to be encouraged to take a stronger position. Please write: Martin Ott, Superintendent, Capitol Reef National Park, Torrey, UT 84775.

Meanwhile, Garfield County is accusing a local environmentalist of sabotaging several of its road-building machines on the Burr Trail. Allegedly, sugar or another substance was placed in the gas tanks of three or four machines one night, causing up to $100,000 of damage. In a recent press conference, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) denounced the monkeywrenching act and disclaimed any connection with the man charged with the crime, Grant Johnson. SUWA stated its opposition to any form of monkeywrenching. The evidence against Johnson is contrived and he is fighting the charges in court. (He was hung in effigy last year in Escalante town by the sober citizens there simply because he was a wilderness supporter.) The circumstances of his arrest and jailing are frightening — one could only compare them to a Black in South Africa or a Palestinian in Israel. Johnson is planning a civil rights suit against Garfield County.

The whole situation surrounding the Burr Trail and the supposed "vandalism" is befuddling, and the *Earth First!* editors do not yet feel they have sufficient information to offer a detailed article on the issue. However, we will note the following, in response to the statements of our friends at SUWA:

The editors of EF! *also wish to express regret over the recent Burr Trail act of monkeywrenching, if it occurred. However, our reasons for regret differ from those of SUWA. They are as follows: 1) If sugar was placed in the gas tanks, this was unwise. Sand or silicon carbide are much more effective, and cause more damage if placed in the oil. 2) Only three or four of ten machines were said to be damaged. 3) Footprints were left in the area. 4) More generally, we advocate strategic monkeywrenching, but in this case, such activity may not have been strategic, if it indeed occurred. The timing may have been bad, and if Garfield County's claims are true, the monkeywrencher did a poor job, failing to disguise revealing signs and leaving much work undone.*

However, the monkeywrenching may not have occurred at all. The accused man, Grant Johnson, now out on bail, has said that he did not commit the "crime" and that probably no one did. Johnson admits to having left footprints in the area around the machines, but says he was not there to monkeywrench. He thinks that Garfield County fabricated the incident to turn public sentiment against the environmen-

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EF! News . . .

Continued from page 11

talists. Johnson also claims that county authorities wrongly accused him of possession of drugs, after their raid on his home (where they seized him). He will seek a change of venue for his trial, as he obviously would not gain a fair trial in Garfield County.

Whatever may have transpired, we commend SUWA's efforts to save southern Utah wildlands. Although we disagree with their position on monkeywrenching, and although we favor closure *of the Burr Trail rather than "preservation" of the Trail, we consider SUWA to be one of the most effective regional wilderness groups in the US. We thank them for their fine work and their fine articles.*

Colorado Earth First! Pledges Resistance Against Two Forks Dam

The Denver Water Board's proposed Two Forks Dam is the cornerstone for further planned destruction in Colorado's Front Range. (See Eostar and Litha 87.) If built, it will inundate 26 miles of the forks of the South Platte River with 600 feet of stagnant water. The Army Corps of Engineers has delayed release of the final environmental impact statement until late March. A large Earth First! showing at the hearings, likely in April, is essential. If both the Forest Service and the Corpse approve the permit, in late May, we want to have 1000 Earth defenders ready to block the Denver Water Board and the Metro Water Providers from completing their dastardly scheme.

— David Lucas

PLEDGE OF RESISTANCE

WHEREAS: The continuing urban expansion into the Front Range threatens us all with the further desecration of our homeland.

AND: Civil disobedience – if engaged in by sufficient numbers of dedicated people in a peaceful and conscientious way — can work to prevent the wrongs which the legal and political systems are unable to stop.

THEREFORE: In sober consideration of these circumstances I am ready to take a stand. I am willing to engage in civil disobedience under the following conditions: 1) The permit for the dam is approved. 2) 1000 other people also pledge to act nonviolently. 3) Nothing in the plan of action violates my personal code.

Willing EF!ers are asked to sign this pledge by sending their names and addresses to CO EF!, Box 1166, Boulder, CO 80306. Also, if willing, please volunteer to help network or plan.

Activists Battle for BC Wolves

On January 11, a war on behalf of the Gray Wolf was declared against the British Columbia Provincial Ministry by a coalition of Earth First!, Friends of the Wolf and wolf and conservation groups throughout the US, Canada, and Europe. The day of protest was a staggering success.

Actions began in England and Western Europe, with protests for economic sanctions against the Canadian government. Although the federal Ministry has stated its opposition to the provincial wolf kill programs, activists aimed to pressure them to enact a federal ban on the slaughter.

Within hours, activists in the US demonstrated in Washington, DC, and other eastern cities. Soon after, activists in the Midwest and then the West protested for wolves. Chicago, Missoula, Laramie (WY), and cities in Colorado were among demonstration sites. Because of time zone differences, a zenith was reached — after three hours of action from the East to the Midwest — as protesters in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver and other BC cities, dealt a final blow to the federal and provincial structures.

The following day, we were informed that the BC Ministry of the Environment is under pressure from federal powers (who recently succumbed to international opposition to the Newfoundland seal slaughter and want no more blood on their hands), as well as international media and the public, and has called for a review which may stop the killing this winter before it begins. However, we have learned, from the cessation of aerial killing in 1985 (see Eostar 87, p.6) and its reopening last winter, not to believe the words of the provincial bureaucraps. Thus, all plans for protest and intervention remain as scheduled. These include the 88 Wolf Rendezvous, the Omineca-Peace intervention, and another massive demo effort throughout the world on February 15 — the day of the Muskwa Valley intervention entry.

Please let us know of protest plans in your area. For more information and to tell us of your plans, contact Friends of the Wolf US or USNW, or Tom Skeele. Also contact EF! groups in the cities mentioned in this summary. Addresses are in EF! Directory.

—Carl Schwamberger

Wolf chained to Wild Bill's Furs, West Hollywood. Photo by Marc Bedner.

EF! Activists Converge

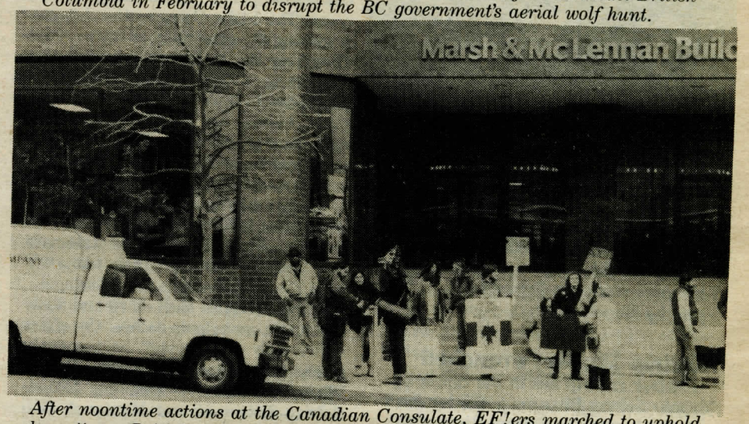
The Earth First! activist conference (February 5-7, in Boulder CO) will be history by the time you read this. You can learn what happened by reading the "ef!.general" conference on Econet; by contacting your local contact, who will receive a synopsis of what transpired; or by contacting Roger Featherstone: Box DB, Bisbee, AZ 85603.

Bureaufats and Developers Reach Fishy Agreement

On January 21, 1988, in Denver, Interior Secretary Donald Hodel, the governors of Wyoming, Colorado and Utah, and the Western Area Power Administration signed what on the surface seems to be a plan to save Endangered fish in the upper Colorado River. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) claims the agreement to be a first step in protecting the Colorado Squawfish, the Bonytail Chub, and the Humpback Chub in a way compatible with state and federal water rights, environmental concerns, and various compacts that allocate water in the upper Colorado River Basin. In reality, however, this "landmark agreement" is at best an attempt by the FWS to save a few federally-listed Endangered fish while allowing further water development and habitat degradation in the basin. The most detrimental aspect of the agreement is that water developers, by making a one time contribution of $10 per acre-foot to a mitigation fund, can be assured of a "no jeopardy" opinion by the FWS on their projects. In other words, the plan could be a loophole for water developers to sidestep section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Colorado Earth First! crashed the officials' party with appropriate banners and signs, succeeding in increasing the flow of sweat from Hodel and FWS Director Frank Dunkle.

—Eric Holle

Sue, Myra and Renee preparing for their first skydives with their instructor. The Davis EF!ers plan to parachute into the Muskwa Valley in northeast British Columbia in February to disrupt the BC government's aerial wolf hunt.



After noontime actions at the Canadian Consulate, EF!ers marched to uphold boycotts on British Columbia before the regional BC tourism office in downtown Seattle, January 11. Photo by Friends of the Wolf.

Jocassee Watershed Threatened

by Thomas Cloer, Jr.

The following report is from the Jocassee Watershed Coalition, a grassroots group seeking to preserve the region centered around the watershed which includes the Horsepasture, Whitewater, Thompson, Bearcamp, and Toxaway Rivers; and the Laurel Fork, Limberpole, Bearwallow, Gum Log, Howard, Wright, Corbin, Coley, Rock, Mill, and Bad Creeks. Folks wishing to help this western Carolinas coalition can contact them at POB 580, Highlands, NC 28741.

Duke Power Company has announced plans to build another pumped storage facility in the pristine Jocassee Watershed. This project, to be built in the Coley Creek wilderness basin, would be similar to Duke's Bad Creek project, now under construction and scheduled for completion in 1992.

The Bad Creek project is located in the western portion of the Jocassee Watershed on the headwaters of the once prolific trout stream, Howard Creek. (Trout in this stream below the project have been eliminated.) Coley Creek is nestled between the Thompson and Horsepasture Rivers, two of the wildest rivers in the Southeast. Waterfalls on these rivers are unsurpassed in grandeur. The Jocassee Watershed has the greatest concentration of waterfalls on the Atlantic face of the Appalachians.

Citizens and environmental groups opposed to the pumped storage projects have formed the Jocassee Watershed Coalition. The coalition includes representatives of Trout Unlimited, Sierra Club, Western Carolina Alliance and many others.

The environmental impact of the Coley Creek project would be significant. While Lake Jocassee would serve as the lower reservoir, another lake would be created to serve as the upper reservoir; this lake would flood much of the Coley Creek basin. Over nine miles of paved road would be constructed to provide access to the site, cutting through some of the most unspoiled mountain terrain in the Carolinas. Powerlines would span the Whitewater and Thompson Rivers. Silt from road-building and excavation for dams would likely eliminate native trout from Thompson River and Bearcamp Creek. Some of the best habitat in the Carolinas for Black Bear, Wild Turkey, White-tail Deer, Ruffed Grouse, and many small species would be eliminated — for a facility projected to cost from 3.3-3.8 billion dollars.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write or call North Carolina county commissioners, legislators, and Congresspersons. Addresses include: Robert Swain (NC Senate), 612 Northwestern Plaza, Asheville, NC 28801; Gordon Greenwood (NC House of Representatives), POB 487, Black Mtn, NC 28711; Nell Smith (South Carolina Senate), POB 68, Easley, SC 29641; and Larry Martin (SC House), POB 247, Pickens, SC 29671. Also write: Thomas Rhodes, Secretary, NC Dept of Natural Resources and Community Development, POB 27687, Raleigh, NC 27611 (919-733-4984). Ask that the Coley Creek project be stopped, that the Jocassee Watershed be preserved, and that the Thompson and Whitewater Rivers be added to the state and national wild and scenic rivers programs.

Thomas Cloer is the editor of the Jocassee Coalition's newsletter.

Letters . . .

Continued from page 6

15,840 minutes to do *something* and did not slow them one second. So, I bless you my friends, show the meek the way.

Howard Wilshire
California

SFB,

Knowledge of a virgin limestone cave, exceeding 300 feet in length and containing numerous unique speleothems (i.e., helictite, spar, etc.), until this writing has been restricted to regional membership of a conservationist speleological society. A passive tactic of not releasing information regarding this cave now includes an act of site security enhancement. The action is a response to commercial timber operations which begin above the cave next spring. A cave gate is being installed which will not influence resident troglodyte or transient life-form habitat but will conceal the cave entrance from accidental discovery and prevent entry by unauthorized individuals.

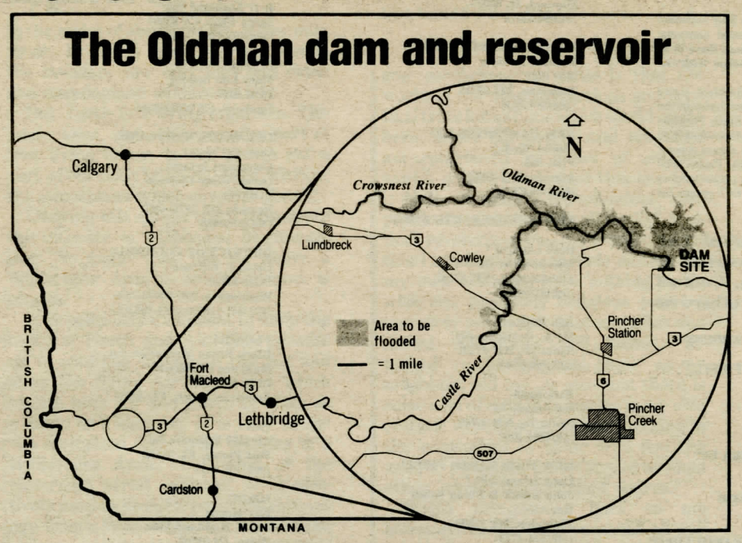
This is only one of many cave conservation projects I've seen resolved with orchestrated silence in my 24 years as a society member. It remains an aspect of caving philosophy expressed in a physical sense.

Ideas on construction technique were obtained from the *Cave Gate Handbook*, available through The National Speleological Society, Cave Ave, Huntsville, AL 35810.

John Clardy
Bellingham, WA

Last Stand on the Oldman River

by Paul Watson



Just north of the Montana border, Alberta's lovely Oldman River meanders past limestone cliffs toward the grassy seas of the Prairies. To the Blackfoot people, this river is sacred. It is named Napi, their trickster teacher in the spirit world. The whites translated this as the Old Man.

At Thunder Mountain, there is a cairn of stones dating back 8000 years. For millennia, travelers each left a stone for Napi, and over the years the pile of stones grew. Today there are few of the People left to leave stones and tomorrow there may be no place for the stones to be left, for the Oldman is to be dammed if the government of the province of Alberta has its way. Already, 250 construction workers are blasting two 3000-foot long, 21-foot wide concrete water diversion tunnels. The contracts for these $25.5 million tunnels were awarded to the South Korean multinational Hyundai corporation and the British Columbian construction firm of Wilhelm Kerkhoff. The tunnels are the first step in what is projected to be a $350 million dam project.

But the Napi has its defenders, including the Friends of the Oldman River (FOR), a coalition of Alberta's environmental groups. The most outspoken and active of the FOR defenders is Andy Russell, a 71-year-old naturalist and author. His latest book, *The Life of a River*, is a hard-hitting anti-dam treatise, which traces the history of the river from antiquity to present.

Mr. Russell is too old and experienced to waste his time with public hearings. "The main purpose of these hearings usually is to let the locals blow off steam," states Russell. "The authorities don't listen."

Last year, Andy Russell teamed up with myself and Friends of the Wolf to defend Brother Wolf. Now his fight is again my fight, and by its nature this is a fight for Earth First!. It will not be an easy fight. The Freddies, as always, have the money, the power, and the evil intent. They have a war chest of job promises, motivational schemes and pay-off lists. As usual, the forces of natural justice have little money or political power.

In 1984, after a five-year public debate, the government of then Premier Peter Lougheed gave the project official approval. This has not deterred the opposition. The publication of Mr. Russell's book coincides with a legal challenge by FOR. In addition, an archeological survey commissioned by the Alberta Ministry of the Environment is calling for a halt to the dam construction to prevent the destruction of archeological sites. The details of the report are not available due to the government's refusal to release the survey. The conclusion, however, was leaked to the *Edmonton Journal*.

The Alberta Minister of the Environment, Ken Kowalski, is obviously embarrassed by the report. He is a firm proponent of the dam. Despite being the Minister for Environment, Kowalski has denounced environmentalists as "social anarchists who are simply against everything."

The defense for building the dam is jobs and money. The government says the dam, when completed in 1990, will store enough water to irrigate an additional 170,000 acres of land in the Oldman River basin, and will create 1700 new jobs and a $42 million annual increase in agricultural production.

The environmentalists counter that the 15-mile long, 6000-acre reservoir will flood out 28 farming families and will destroy the recreational fishery on three prime trout rivers — the Oldman, Castle, and Crowsnest — where they meet behind the dam. Critics maintain that the government has a secret agenda. Mr. Russell argues that the government is more interested in inter-basin transfer projects than in irrigation. He dates the plans for the dam back to the 1950s, when the Alberta government commissioned the US Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a survey of Alberta's river basins. The survey results became known as the Prairie Rivers Improvement, Management and Evaluation scheme (PRIME). A plan was devised to move water from the Peace and Athabasca River systems of northern Alberta to the southern part of the province.

In the 1950s, Mr. Russell fought to stop PRIME. He argued that each river system had its own rich diversity within its own complex ecosystem. The transfer of water from one system to another could be fatal to one or both systems. Lamprey eels from the MacKenzie River could, for example, destroy the trout in southern Alberta waters. The example of the Great Lakes was used to illustrate the destruction of fish populations due to outside invasions of lampreys and other parasites that were allowed entry to the Great Lakes by the construction of the St. Lawrence seaway. It was largely the dangers of environmental transfer that killed the original Garrison dam project plans in the US just south of the province of Manitoba.

By the 1970s, PRIME was supposedly dead, but Russell and others believe that the plan simply went into hibernation to await stronger demand for water. PRIME is a prime example of why governments cannot be trusted. Alberta's anti-PRIME people thought they'd found a powerful ally in the late '60s with the election of Conservative Premier Peter Lougheed. One of Lougheed's campaign slogans was "PRIME is a crime." Once elected he declared PRIME officially dead. Yet in December, 1981, former Alberta New Democrat leader Grant Notley embarrassed the Lougheed government when he brandished a leaked report from the Alberta Environment's Water Advisory Committee. The papers confirmed that the PRIME scheme was still on the government's agenda, and that Premier Lougheed himself supported it.

Because of resulting protests, the Lougheed government again declared PRIME dead in 1981. According to Andy Russell, this was just another in a string of government lies. Said Russell, "The Alberta government is in love with megaprojects, and there's nothing like the prospect of a big construction project to excite the egotism of small minded men."

Alberta New Democrat John Younie is the environment critic for the opposition party. He agrees with Russell. He recalled an argument with former Conservative party member Henry Kroeger, an advocate of inter-basin transfer. Said Younie, "Mr. Kroeger had a definite idea about water management. He thought that water that's moving isn't managed; water in a bucket is." That's the general opinion of the government, Younie says. "It's obvious what they are doing; 30 years from now they'll say: 'All the dams are here. It won't cost much to build the canals. Let's divert the water.'" John Younie and Andy Russell agree that the government's long-term goal is water export to the United States.

Water demand in the US is indeed growing. In the irrigation belt of the US High Plains, the Ogallala Aquifer, a vast underground lake, is being pumped dry by agribusiness. A US lobby is pushing for diversion of Canada's northern rivers into the region.

Already the mega-project construction firm of Ralph M Parsons, based in Pasadena, California, has developed plans for what it calls the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA). This proposal envisions a series of river diversions that would pump water down the western slopes of the Rockies as far south as Mexico. Plans include the construction of hydro plants along the route that would generate 70,000 megawatts of electricity, equal in output to 70 nuclear power stations.

This talk of a "secret agenda" upsets Environment Minister Kowalski. "I can visualize that in 100 or 150 years we will be involved in inter-basin transfer. But there is no plan for water diversion now. There is no secret plan..."

Of course, after the embarrassment of the documents in 1981, the government would not make the mistake of putting their plans on paper again. There is no doubt, however, that the government sees water as a valuable commodity to trade on the future markets. Water for irrigation, drinking, and power, and the dollars water projects will realize, are powerful motivations for the development of inter-basin transfer.

But Napi, the trickster, is at work. The water being dammed for irrigation will prove to be a disaster in the long run for the farmers. When land is over-irrigated, the natural salts below the surface of the soil begin to rise and eventually poison the crops. Already nearly 30% of Alberta's irrigated land has been destroyed by salinization.

Dam advocates only see the short-term gain. The mayor of Taber, a small farming town that would benefit from the Oldman dam stated: "We want that dam and we're going to have it."

Andy Russell is not deterred. In *The Life of a River* he writes, "Meanwhile, the Oldman still flows unshackled across the prairie to the sea. The spirit of the river is not dead."

Paul Watson is the leader of Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and EF!'s contact in British Columbia. Write to Paul in BC (see Directory) to volunteer your services in the effort to save Oldman River.

Riot Police Beat Up Wackersdorf Protestors

by Wolpertinger

The Bavarian state government's intimidation and oppression of public resistance to the construction of a nuclear reprocessing facility near the rural town of Wackersdorf in Bavaria (a West German state bordering Austria) recently escalated into a violent encounter between anti-nuclear protesters and riot police. [See Mabon 86 for a report on the Wackersdorf facility.] An illegal demonstration at the construction site on October 10 developed into a fierce battle after police attacked the demonstrators. According to witnesses who testified at a parliamentary hearing on October 30 in the Bavarian Landtag (state parliament), police officers indiscriminately beat up anybody who happened to be at the scene. Demonstrators who tried to escape to a nearby forest were chased by police and beaten from behind with clubs. A local reporter was thrown to the ground. A member of parliament who belongs to the Greens, and who was at the demonstration as an observer, was clubbed on the head. More than 100 demonstrators were injured. One of the 100, a 63-year-old woman, compared the operation at Wackersdorf to the tactics employed by police in totalitarian countries such as Poland, or most recently China, where Tibetan monks protested against Chinese rule.

The October 10 repression was carried out by a police unit, based in West Berlin, which is specially trained to counter political riots. This unit's members are known to be ruthless. Following the event, controversy arose as to whether local police authorities had known of the manner in which this operation was being conducted by their colleagues from Berlin. An article in the October 31 *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* said that police headquarters in Regensburg (the seat of the administrative district of which Wackersdorf is a part) had full knowledge of what was happening.

This recent police attack should not surprise anyone familiar with the intimidation strategy of the Bavarian state government with regard to Wackersdorf. Ever since the Chernobyl accident of April 26, 1986, resistance to construction of the reprocessing facility has increased. Concerned citizens in both Bavaria and Austria (the Wackersdorf site is near the German-Austrian border) fear that a similar accident could occur here. The risks a reprocessing facility poses not only to the immediate area but to vast areas of Central Europe is tremendous. According to a study published by the Institute for Reactor Safety in Cologne, West Germany, approximately 30 million people (half the current population of West Germany) might die if a major accident ever occurred, and a territory of 36,000 square kilometers might be devastated.

Aside from the possibility of a major accident, the facility presents long-term risks to those living near the plant. Even during normal operation, a reprocessing facility emits roughly 100 times as much radioactivity as a nuclear power plant equipped with a pressurized water reactor.

Despite these facts and overwhelming opposition among Bavarians and Austrians, the Bavarian state government under Ministerpraesident (state governor) Franz Josef Strauss remains hellbent on the realization of the Wackersdorf project. Bavarian authorities have increasingly repressed those opposing the facility. In June of 1986, protesters from Austria were denied entry into West Germany by border officials so that they could not participate in demonstrations. In fall of 1986, the Bavarian government introduced tough legislation which defined acts of ecotage such as the toppling of powerline towers [a tactic employed recently by radicals opposed to Wackersdorf] as terrorist activities, which carry drastic prison sentences. These new laws also made the mere publication of books, newspapers or pamphlets which condone sabotage a crime.

In October 1986, three members of a Munich-based citizens initiative against Wackersdorf gathered in front of the state capitol in Munich to hand Franz Josef Strauss lists with over 200,000 signatures against this project. These activists were later sued by the state government for allegedly breaking a law concerning gatherings in public. The district court in Munich recently ruled in favor of the defendants, but this lawsuit will no doubt intimidate activists. The most recent police brutalities may further deter many potential protesters from demonstrating at the construction site.

Wolpertinger is an Earth First! activist in West Germany. Many of us befriended him during his sojourn in the US, and we anxiously await his return.

The Earth First! Directory

The Earth First! Directory lists the contact points for the international Earth First! movement. It is divided into four sections: 1) National EF! offices in the United States; 2) International contacts; 3) Active EF! Chapters or Groups; and 4) Contact persons where there is as yet no active EF! group. If you are interested in becoming active with the Earth First! movement, reach the folks listed for your area.

Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is an independent entity within the international Earth First! movement, and is not the newsletter of the Earth First! movement. It does, however, provide a forum for Earth First!ers around the world. This directory is provided as a service to independent EF! groups. If you would like to be listed as a contact or as a group, please contact Bob Kaspar (305 N. Sixth St., Madison, WI 53704 (608)241-9426). Please send address changes or corrections to him also. If you do not have a phone number listed, please send it to him. Bob acts as coordinator for local EF! groups for the EF! movement.

LOCAL NEWSLETTERS: Addresses marked with a "*" produce either an Earth First! newsletter or regular mailings for their area or issue. Contact them directly to receive their newsletter or otherwise be on their mailing list.

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Bob Yourko
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(314)752-5011

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(716)461-0797

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Elyria, OH 44035
(216)324-7522

Craigh Limpach
161 Courtland
Elyria, OH 44035
(216)366-9821

PENNSYLVANIA
John McFarland
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Pt. Pleasant, PA 18950

David Hafer
c/o Otzinachson
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Lewisburg, PA 17837
(717)523-3107

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842 Library Ave.
Carnegie, PA 15106
(412)279-8911

TENNESSEE
Jeff & Kim Turner
1726 Forest Ave.
Knoxville, TN 37916
(615)522-8521

WASHINGTON
US Friends of the Wolf
USNW Support Office
Carl Schwamberger
3517 1/2 #7 Fremont Ave N
Seattle, WA 98103

WYOMING
Earth Mother of Jackson
POB 749
Jackson, WY 83001
(307)733-6470

Magpie
655 N Cedar
Laramie, WY 82070
(307)745-4484

Earth First! Bulletins

***TEXAS EF! RENDEZVOUS, Feb 19-21, Angelina National Forest, near Upland Island Wilderness. It will include workshops, nature hikes, Bill Oliver. For info, call TX EF! contacts. (See Directory.)**

*SOUTHWEST ROADSHOW. Arizona and New Mexico Earth First!ers are planning a roadshow featuring an updated version of the Canyon Under Siege slideshow about uranium mining at the Grand Canyon. Sharing the bill will be one of EF!'s finest musicians — Dakota Sid — and traveling MC Roger Featherstone. The tentative Roadshow schedule is as follows: Thursday, February 25 — Flagstaff; Feb 26 — Prescott; Feb 28 — Albuquerque; Feb 29 — Santa Fe; Thursday, March 3 — Bisbee; March 4 — Oracle; March 5 — Tucson. If you want to book the tour in your town, call (immediately) Ned Powell at 602-745-3907.

*WOLF PROTEST. Friends of the Wolf will hold a demonstration on behalf of wolves, in Sacramento, at the State Capitol, Feb 15, 11 AM. For info, call Danni Rosensteel at 916-628-5312. See Carl's article this issue for info about EF!/Friends of the Wolf actions.

*DANA LYONS EARTH FIRST! TOUR. One of EF!'s favorite musicians, Dana Lyons, will tour California in February. Initial shows will include Greg King with a slideshow called "The Last Redwood Wilderness." The schedule is as follows: Feb 12 — Arcata; Feb 13 — Garberville; Feb 14 — Ukiah, Ukiah Community Center, 1:30 PM; Feb 15 — Sonoma County; Feb 16 — UC Davis, contact Chris Craig 916-753-7657; Feb 18 — Chico, benefit for Sapphire 6: Kalmiopsis Legal Defense Fund, 9 PM at Pageant Theatre; Feb 19 — Berkeley, Y House, 8 PM, 2600 Bancroft Way; Feb 20 — Santa Cruz, contact Michael Robinson 408-354-7893; Feb 22 — Santa Barbara; Feb 26 — UC San Diego (with Dr. Seuss movie "The Lorax"), 7:30 Che Cafe, Revelle College, UCSD Campus; Feb 29 — El Portal, El Portal Community Center, 7 PM.

*EASTERN US EARTH FIRST! NEWSLETTER. The first issue has just been printed. For a copy, write: Appalachian EF!, c/o Celeste Kennedy, 2257 Hatton St., Virginia Beach, VA 23451.

*LOU GOLD AND "EARTH FIRST!" ON LONG ISLAND! Lou Gold will present his Kalmiopsis slideshow and the movie "Earth First!" will be shown. Discussion will follow. Regional EF!ers, please attend. March 20, 2 PM, New Community Cinema, Huntington, Long Island, 423 Park Ave (516-423-7653 for time and directions). Call 516-424-6499 for other info on this and other local EF! news.

*PERMACULTURE DESIGN COURSE, with Dan Hemenway, April 10-30, Great Bend, KS. Contact Sr. Betty Jean Goebel, Heartland Center, 3600 Broadway, Great Bend, KS 67530; 316-792-1232.

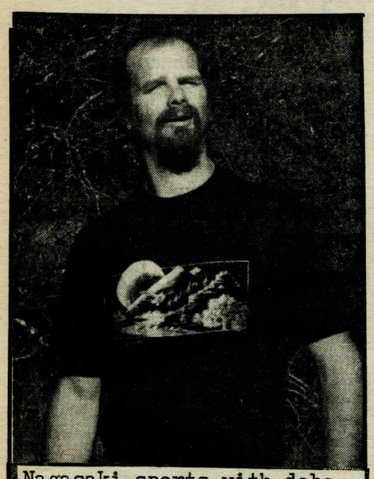
*MCI SCAM. A New Mexico EF! contact recently called to warn us that there is reason to believe that persons are phoning activists, pretending to be with the "MCI Investigative Bureau," and trying to gain information from them. MCI says these people are not involved with MCI. They may be using the EF! Directory to find activists' names to call. So if the "MCI Investigative Bureau" calls you, be wary.

*PHILADELPHIA EARTH FIRST!? Anyone living in or near Philadelphia who would like to help start an EF! group should contact Steve Olesik, 531 Marwood Rd, Phil., PA 19120; 215-457-1780.

*INFORMATION WANTED. The EF! Biodiversity Task Force has begun a study of the effects of BLM programs on sensitive, Threatened and Endangered species of wildlife, and requests information from both agency and independent biologists and naturalists on the status and distribution of less known species. If you know of species in trouble on BLM lands due to habitat destruction or human caused mortality, write the EF! Biodiversity Task Force, Rt.1, Box 232, Parkersburg, WV 26101. This information is needed to develop administrative, legal and public education programs on behalf of these species and their ecosystems. Anonymity is assured.

EF! LOCAL GROUPS MERCHANDISE

These advertisements offer merchandise which entirely benefit local Earth First! groups or other preservation groups deserving your support. Order directly from the address in each ad and not from this newspaper. These ads are placed free to support EF! local groups and other important groups.



Nagasaki sports with debonair elan one of our most beautiful shirts: A Spotted Owl flies over a moonlit forest with peaks and the full moon in the background. Colors -- silver on black, Earth First! in silver letters. $9 postpaid. Order from Chico EF!, POB 5625, Chico, CA 95927. Design by Kathy Faith.

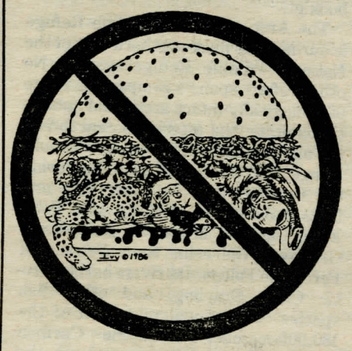
USUAL DISGUSTING PLEA FOR MONEY

The Earth First! movement runs on your financial support. We don't need as much as other groups since we are grassroots, volunteer, decentralized and have low overhead. Moreover, you get to select where your hard-earned money goes. Don't send your contributions to this newspaper, send them directly to one of these hard working groups:

***Earth First! Foundation, POB 50681, Tucson, AZ 85703**
(contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible)
***Arizona Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703**
***Bay Area Earth First!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516**
***Biodiversity Task Force, Jasper Carlton, Rt 1, Box 232, Parkersburg, WV 26101**
***Colorado Earth First!, Box 1166, Boulder, CO 80306**
***Florida Earth First!, 6820 SW 78th St., Gainesville, FL 32608**
***Grazing Task Force, POB 5784, Tucson, AZ 85703**
***Humboldt County Earth First!, POB 34, Garberville, CA 95440**
***Los Angeles Earth First!, 13110 Bloomfield St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423**
***Midwest Headwaters Earth First!, POB 516, Stevens Point, WI 54481**
***Montana Earth First!, Box 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715**
***New Mexico Earth First!, 456 Amado St, Santa Fe, NM 87501**
***Nomadic Action Group, POB 210, Canyon, CA 94516**
***Oregon Earth First!, POB 1437, Merlin, OR 97532**
***PAW (Preserve Appalachian Wilderness), RR 1, Box 132-A, North Stratford, NH 03590**
***Santa Cruz Earth First!, POB 344, Santa Cruz, CA95061**
***Texas Earth First!, POB 7292, University Station, Austin, TX 78713**
***Washington Earth First!, POB 2962, Bellingham, WA 98227**
***Wolf Action Network, POB 272, Yosemite, CA 95389**

This fundraising appeal is placed as a service to the Earth First! movement. THANK YOU for your support!

STOP RAINFOREST DESTRUCTION



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Arizona Earth First!
P.O. Box 3412
Tucson, AZ 85722

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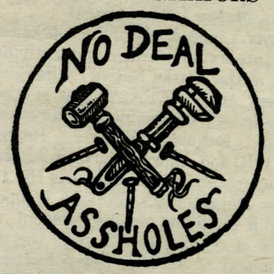

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Please send any newspaper clippings mentioning Earth First! or dealing with subjects of interests to us at POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703. Clippings about monkeywrenching of any kind would also be appreciated. Thank you!

The Post Office does not forward Third Class Mail but they do charge us 30 cents apiece to to send us your change of address. Please send us your change of address promptly so you do not miss an issue of *Earth First!* and we do not have to pay the Post Office to receive it. Some people using clever aliases are not receiving their copies of *Earth First!*. Be sure to notify your postperson that "Attila the Hun" or "The Animal" receives mail at your address.

SCHEDULE

***Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal* is published 8 times a year on the old pagan European nature holidays: Samhain (November 1), Yule (December 21 or 22), Brigid (February 2), Eostar (March 21 or 22), Beltane (May 1), Litha (June 21 or 22), Lughnasadh (August 1), and Mabon (September 21 or 22). Deadlines for articles are three weeks before the cover date: October 10, December 1, January 10, March 1, April 10, June 1, July 10, and September 1. The newspaper is mailed Third Class on the cover date. First Class delivery is available for $10 extra a year. Surface delivery outside the USA is available for $25; airmail delivery overseas is available for $40 a year.**

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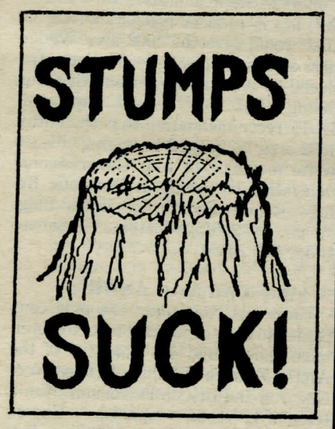

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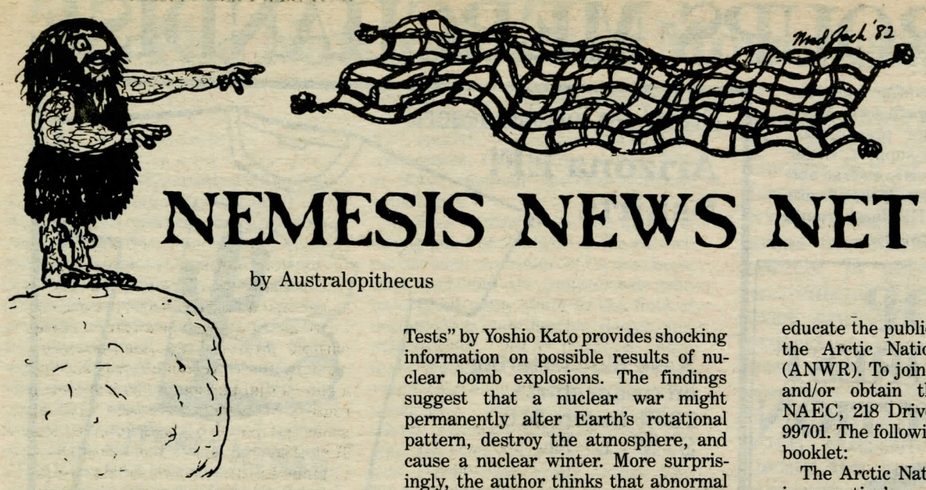
WOLVES FOR A GREATER YELLOWSTONE

EARTH FIRST! BIODIVERSITY TASK FORCE



NEMESIS NEWS NET

by Australopithecus

Chipmunk Attacks Chain-sawyers

Two University of Montana students were recently surprised when they heard a "high-pitched shriek coming from the log" they were preparing to cut. One of them was then dismayed to see a blur descend upon him and claw up his leg. He swatted the lump beneath his jeans and was duly bitten. The chipmunk then attacked the other sawyer. Unfortunately, this man had a rifle, and shot the fierce creature. The chipmunk was not rabid, subsequent tests showed. "I guess we disturbed its home," admitted one of the men. (*Sun*, 9-1-87)

Bird Disables F-16 Fighter

In June, a bird gave its life by flying into the engine of a $14 million Fighting Falcon en route to MacDill Air Force Base in Florida, killing the jet's engine. The pilots glided 25 miles to a safe landing at Tampa International Airport. (*Wisconsin State Journal*, 6-6-87)

Monkeys Run Amok in New Delhi

Wild monkey gangs, seeking food and fun, have taken to raiding homes and schools in one of India's largest cities. The monkeys have become skillful at dodging New Delhi's monkey catchers. They have been especially aggressive at a wealthy south Delhi neighborhood, and at a school where they've stricken terror into the hearts of students by entering classrooms in gangs of 20-30 and stealing kids' lunch boxes. (UPI)

Support for Preservation Grows

A recent survey described in "Cambridge Reports," 9-87, suggests that the US public is slowly awakening to the need for wilderness. The survey question was: If it came down to a simple choice between developing new energy resources and preserving publicly owned wilderness areas, which do you think the nation should choose? In 1980, 68% said 'develop new resources'; 19% said 'preserve the wilderness'; and 12% said 'don't know.' In 1981 the figures improved to 62% for development, 28% for preservation. In 1987, 50% favored development, while 38% favored preservation.

Dakotans Unite...

You have everything to lose including the Black Hills Redbelly Snake.

Ecologist Michael Melius has recently completed an ideal book to rally Dakota environmental radicals to the cause of preserving their vanishing wildlife. *Plants and Animals Rare in South Dakota: A Field Guide* is a concise yet thorough and neatly illustrated description of South Dakota's rare species. It is an ideal information source for anyone contemplating developing a Great Plains wilderness proposal. Among the approximately 115 animals and 100 plants he lists are such seldom seen species as: Fat Mucket (pelecypod); Northern Redbelly Dace, Pallid Sturgeon, Mudpuppy (fish); Midland Smooth Softshell (turtle), Prairie Ringneck Snake; Ferruginous Hawk; Gapper's Red-backed Vole, Northern Flying Squirrel, Lynx; Large-flowered Bellwort, Black-footed Quillwort, James' Clammyweed, Waxy Bog-star, Slimleaf Scurfpea, Broad-lipped Twayblade, and Green Spleenwort (plants). For a copy of this fine book, send $4 to Ornate Press, RR2 Box 40C, Hermosa, SD 57744.

Could Nukes Alter Earth's Orbit?

A document titled "Recent Abnormal Phenomena on Earth and Atomic Power Tests" by Yoshio Kato provides shocking information on possible results of nuclear bomb explosions. The findings suggest that a nuclear war might permanently alter Earth's rotational pattern, destroy the atmosphere, and cause a nuclear winter. More surprisingly, the author thinks that abnormal meteorological phenomena, earthquakes, and "abnormal polar motion of the earth" are already occurring due to underground nuclear bomb testing. Despite having been published in 1976, this report has not been publicized. For a copy, write James DeMeo, Geography Dept., POB 248152, Coral Gables, FL 33124-8152.

Doyon Makes Letter Appeal

Doyon Limited, one of the Alaska Native Corporations formed under stipulations of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), is now in a position to help determine the fate of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and other wildlands in Alaska. Unfortunately, Doyon supports the Interior Department's proposal to open ANWR to oil and gas development. In hopes of reaping profits from the development of ANWR, Doyon has sent letters to interested persons requesting that they write their Congresspersons in support of a land trade between Doyon and the Interior Department. The following is drawn from Doyon's letter:

The Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge which is east of Prudhoe Bay represents the top prospect for new oil and gas potential in the US. Representatives of the Department of the Interior (DOI) have been discussing the possibility of acquiring certain lands within National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska owned or selected by Alaska Native Corporations including Doyon. The exchange is designed to further the Congressionally mandated purposes for seven National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska. At present 891,000 acres have been offered for exchange by several native corporations. The people that managed Doyon ten years ago that selected our ANCSA lands had the foresight to see the potential future exchange value of these lands proposed for exchange. We are implementing a business strategy that began with those selections. After nearly two years of negotiations, Doyon has reached a tentative land exchange agreement with the DOI and could receive 43,000 acres of ANWR oil and gas interests in exchange for Doyon inholdings in three National Wildlife Refuges in Interior Alaska. Doyon's exchange inholdings consist of approximately 220,000 acres located in the Kanuti, Nowitna, and Upper Innoko National Wildlife Refuges ... less than 2% of Doyon's total lands entitlement of 12.5 million acres.... Currently the land exchange negotiations are on hold while Congress studies the benefits of opening ANWR. Before the exchange agreements are consummated two steps have to be taken by the US Congress: 1. Congress has to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration and production; 2. Congress has to approve the land exchanges.

Environmentalists should send letters to their Congresspersons (representative, House of Representatives, Wash., DC 20515; senators, Senate, DC 20510) in opposition to steps 1 and 2 above, and in support of Wilderness designation for all of the ANWR. They should also write Morris Thompson, President of Doyon (Doyon Bldg, 201 First Ave, Fairbanks, AK 99701), suggesting that his Native Corporation find ecologically sound means of providing for its people.

NAEC Publishes ANWR Booklet

The Northern Alaska Environmental Center is disseminating a booklet, "Arctic Refuge: Treasure of the North," to educate the public about the threats to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). To join the Northern Center and/or obtain their booklet, write: NAEC, 218 Driveway, Fairbanks, AK 99701. The following is drawn from that booklet:

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is our nation's most northern unit of the National Wildlife Refuge system. No other refuge spans a comparable range of ecologically-intact arctic and subarctic habitats: the interior boreal forest, the alpine tundra of the eastern Brooks Range, and the coastal plain bordering the Beaufort Sea. No other area protects habitats for Grizzly and Polar Bear, Caribou, Musk Ox, Dall Sheep, Gray Wolf, Wolverine, Snow Geese, and Peregrine Falcon. Its rivers harbor Arctic Char, Grayling, and other fish species. The annual migration of the 180,000-member Porcupine Caribou Herd to their calving grounds on the coastal plain is an event so spectacular that the Arctic Refuge coastal plain has been called the "American Serengeti."

Oil development now threatens the heart of the Arctic Refuge: that richly-varied strip of land lying between the foothills of the Brooks Range and the shore of the Beaufort Sea known as the coastal plain. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) observes that "the coastal plain is the most biologically productive part of the Arctic Refuge" (Department of the Interior 1002 Report). This wilderness is now threatened by intensive oil development.

Nearly all of the Alaskan arctic coastal plain is open to development. Only within the Arctic Refuge is development prohibited. Fifty-five million acres of Alaskan North Slope are already committed to oil and gas extraction; at issue are the 1.5 million acres within the ANWR which cannot be leased. Of Alaska's 1125 miles of Arctic Ocean coastline, only the 125 miles within the Refuge are protected. But if the oil industry and the Reagan administration have their way, this too will be developed. Secretary of Interior Donald Hodel has recommended to Congress that the entire ANWR coastal plain be opened to oil exploration and extraction.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: The fate of the Arctic Refuge is being debated in Congress. Representative Mo Udall (D-AZ) has introduced legislation (HR 39) that would give the 1002 area Wilderness status. Opposing legislation introduced by Alaskan Representative Don Young (HR 1038) would implement DOI's recommendation that the entire 1002 area be opened to leasing. Please write members of your Congressional delegation on behalf of the Arctic Refuge: Representative, US House Bldg, Wash., DC 20515; Senators, US Senate Bldg, DC 20510.

11 Firms Drill Aside ANWR

Until this November, the only companies to have conducted tests to determine the oil and gas potential of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge were Chevron and British Petroleum. Now a team of 11 US oil companies — Exxon, Mobil, Amoco, ARCO, Phillips Petroleum, Shell, Tenneco, Unocal, Marathon, American Petrofina, and Amerada Hess — is conducting exploratory drilling off the northern Alaska coast six miles from Chevron's test well. Atlantic Richfield is leasing the four-square-mile tract from the US Department of Interior. Chevron and BP have withheld information on their test results so as to retain an advantage in bidding if Congress opens the ANWR to leasing. Chevron's well is on the Arctic Coastal Plain, while the new one, named Aurora, is off shore. However, geologists expect to find the same underground terrain that underlies much of the Coastal Plain. (*San Francisco Chronicle*, 11-12-87)

Logging Deaths Increase

Despite allegations to the contrary, no tree spiking Earth First!er has ever caused injury to a logger through her (or his) inoculation of threatened trees. However, this year an unusually high number of loggers have indeed suffered injuries or death ... due largely to employers' negligence and dangerous heavy equipment. In Washington alone, 20 loggers had died this year as of August 28. In the 1970s — boom years for logging — Washington logging deaths averaged 30 per year, but had dropped to 17 per year from 1980-1986, as numbers of employed fellers fell. Washington had 9188 workers employed as loggers this year, which means a surprising 1 in 481 have been killed this year. (*The Bellingham Herald*, 8-28-87) Thus do we request of OSHA (the Occupational Safety and Health Administration) an announcement of support for tree spikers and other opponents of large-scale logging.

Panda Numbers Still Falling

Panda expert Hu Jinchu has called for a cessation of the capturing of Giant Pandas. He warned that their population has dropped below 1000 in China, their only natural home, and that they die younger and reproduce less — if at all — in captivity. (*The Globe and Mail*, 7-16)

Honeywell Won't Go To Hell

In our Lughnasadh issue, we printed a letter from a Lakota Sioux woman warning of Honeywell Inc.'s plans to build a munitions testing facility in the wild Hell Canyon in South Dakota's Black Hills, an area sacred to the Lakota tribe. Unconfirmed reports now suggest that, following intense pressure by Lakota traditionals, Honeywell has decided to build its facility elsewhere. Honeywell still would prefer a site in South Dakota, but officials in Anaconda-Deer Lodge County, Montana, hope to attract the facility there. Honeywell wants 15,000 acres in an area remote enough to facilitate testing anti-tank shells fitted with depleted uranium tips. (*Anaconda Leader*, 10-16-87)

Do Soviets Watch The Muppet Show?

Perhaps inspired by The Muppet Show's "Pigs in Space" serial, watched by millions of TV viewers, the Soviets plan to raise chickens in space. Tass, the official Soviet news agency, reported that a new weightless-environment incubator would enable cosmonauts to raise roasting chickens for long space voyages. Tass did not speculate on whether similar technology would eventually allow extra-planetary pork production.

Brahmans Boost Bovine Benevolence

Distraught at the millions of cows killed in the US each year, a group of Hindus in India are asking Hindus in the US to institute Adopt-a-Cow programs. The *India Observer* reports that a Hare Krishna communal farm in Pennsylvania has been chosen as the pilot site for this cow protection program. Three plans will be offered: $30 a month, $100 a month, or a single payment of $3000 — the amount required to protect one cow for its whole life. Hindus honor the cow as the mother of human society (indeed, it does seem that the two species are much akin), thus one of the rewards for the donors is a free weekend at the farm to visit their sacred mother, or "go-mata." Donors also receive a color photo of their adopted mother, and regular reports on her well-being.

Gravity Reclaims Motor Home

The forces of nature continue to remind us in subtle ways that they'll not be subjugated. A Utah businessman, S. Magoztovics, was recently gently reminded of this when his motor home stalled on Colorado 139, one-half mile south of 8266-foot-high Douglas Pass. As he stepped out to investigate the problem, the heap rolled back down the road and over a 250-foot cliff, and then bounced down a slope — coming to a fitting end as a pile of rubble commencing its devolution back into its proper constituent elements. (*Grand Junction Sentinel*, 9-3-87)

Dweeb Dane Goes Insane

A Danish psychologist recently described in a medical journal of Denmark what may be the first case of a human-computer merger. "He merged with the computer and afforded it supernatural qualities," the psychologist said of his young patient. The teenager regularly spent 12-16 hours a day at his complicator, finally reaching the point of thinking in computer language (e.g. "Line 10, go the the bathroom."). He was finally hospitalized, suffering from stress and insomnia — or perhaps we should say, system error and circuit malfunctioning. (*San Francisco Chronicle*)

Japan Imports Chopsticks From US

In October, a Minnesota firm, Lakewood Forest Products, began sending chopsticks to Japan. Though Lakewood Products' president admitted that such a transaction is somewhat akin to sending "coal to Newcastle," the firm gained much local support for the new trade, as the economy in northern Minnesota's iron country is severely depressed. Lakewood's plans for its new $5 million high-tech chopstick factory entail sending more than two billion pairs of chopsticks a year to the Far East, mostly for Japanese restaurants. The utensils will be made from local Aspens. The Japanese discard 130 million pairs of chopsticks a day. Already, Japan's use of disposable chopsticks has caused extensive clearing of rainforests in Malaysia and elsewhere in Southeast Asia. (*The Sacramento Bee*, 10-14-87)

Doctor Blocks Bush Bikers

Off-road motorcycles are as much a menace in parts of Australia as they are in the rural US. Bush bikers compete in major long-distance races, wreaking havoc on Australian grasslands, deserts, wildlife, and rural residents. Recently in South Gippsland Dr. Rod Anderson decided he would tolerate bush bikers no more. During an enduro event which illegally cut through his bush and through adjacent state forest, Anderson — furiously wielding a machete — repulsed the motorcycle fiends, terminating their race. The event is now under investigation by the Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands. (*The South Gippsland Sentinel-Times*, 9-29-87)

Little Vic and Big Louie Mar Voyageurs Park

In August 1985, after failing to sell his land on the shore of Rainy Lake, which separates Minnesota from Ontario, to the US government to add to Voyageurs National Park, Vic Davis of Thunder Bay, Ontario, sought to make the government regret their failure to pay his high price. He built a ghastly fiberglass statue of Big Louie, an early, black-bearded voyageur in the area. After finishing that $16,000 eyesore, Davis spray-painted rocks near the lake in garish colors and felled Norway Pines, White Pines, birches, and poplars along 20 acres of shoreline. Voyageurs Park, named after the early fur traders of the North whose mode of transport was the canoe, was created in 1975 and encompasses 217,892 acres. In 1982, the National Park Service began to buy private land in the area to add to the park. That year, Davis bought 122 adjacent acres for $200,000 — five times what the government had offered to pay. Davis claims that he could now sell the 39 lots into which he has divided his land for $50,000 each plus $50,000 for a cabin on each. In June,1985, the government began condemnation proceedings to obtain the land. Those proceedings were stopped this past August by a federal judge in St. Paul. Davis has not attained his price from the government but he has gained his revenge. May Nature now avenge his ill deeds! (*New York Times*, 8-27-87)

Alaskans Poach Bears In BC

Alaskan poachers are finding northern British Columbia — which has only two game wardens — a prime area for shooting Grizzlies and other big mammals. Northern BC hunters are so distraught to see outsiders ruining their game that they are considering direct action to halt them, if more wardens are not supplied by the BC government. These hunters and their member in Parliament (Jim Fulton, New Democrat, Skeena District) say that thousands of dollars worth of game are being illegally taken from the province. A fisherman on the Stikine River recently reported seeing a boat carrying four Grizzly Bear heads and gall bladders. Grizzlies and Mountain Sheep trophies are worth $20,000-$100,000 each. (*Seattle Times*, 10-29-87)

Biologists Kill Club Carp

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists recently sprayed a country club pond with Pronox-fish to kill 100 illegally stocked grass carp. Biologists feared the non-native carp might have escaped into the wild, there to wreak ecological havoc. The carp had been shipped from a private hatchery in Arkansas. Club officials stocked the pond with the carp to eat the pond's vegetation. Department biologists say the poison Pronox-fish is harmless to non-piscatory animals, and that it kills fish by coagulating blood in their gills. (*Seattle Times*, 10-25-87)

Libya Cites US Savagery

In October, Libya condemned the US for cruelty to dolphins. Libya charged the US with "using this tame animal . . . in missions leading to certain death." Describing America's actions as "the climax of brutality and savagery," the official Libyan news agency Jana reported that the US was using dolphins to search for mines in the Persian Gulf. The US Defense Department admitted that five trained dolphins had been sent to the Gulf to seek underwater mines, but said this was the first dolphin deployment since the Vietnam War. Jana urged animal welfare groups worldwide to organize protests against "dolphin annihilation by American imperialism." (*Los Angeles Times*, 10-18-87)

Nuns Own Battery Hen House

The following report was recently released by Campaign Against Farm Animal Abuse (PO Box 45, Birmingham 1, England). The report did not state whether this problem of the nunnery battery is one shared by other cloistered orders.

The Convent of the Order of the Passion of Jesus near Daventry, Northamptonshire has 10,000 hens. The birds are confined indoors in cages with a floor space of four square inches per bird for up to two years. They are unable to dust bathe, ground scratch, roost, perch, develop a pecking order or lay their eggs in privacy. Mother Superior Katherine said, "If our chickens were not happy they would not lay so many eggs." However, zoologist Dr. Desmond Morris explained, "Please do not tell me that battery hens are happy because they lay eggs. They really cannot help it. The social life of birds is a subtle and complex world where food and water are only a small part of their behavioural needs. Each bird is programmed with a complicated set of drives and responses which set it on the path to a life of special territorial, nesting, roosting, grooming, parental, aggressive and sexual activities."

Flying Foxes Need Help

The following report is condensed from a news alert by Bat Conservation International. To obtain more information on the too-oft forgotten order Chiroptera — which comprise almost of 20% of the estimated 4070 mammal species on Earth — write Bat Conservation International, POB 162603, Austin, TX 78716.

The Ku-ring-gai Bat Colony Committee in New South Wales, Australia, is battling to save flying foxes in Australia. Flying foxes are legally protected in NSW but public education is needed before they can be considered truly protected. Such is the case at Bellingen Island.

The river island's rainforest is one of the few remnants of lowland subtropical forest in northern NSW. Surrounded by the town of Bellingen, it is now remote from much of the fauna and flora with which it interacted prior to human settlement; even then, such a forest was rare at this latitude.

As people and cattle encroached upon it, weeds were introduced. A South American native, Wandering Jew (*Tradascantia albiflora*), formed dense mats beneath which native seeds could not germinate. While entire regenerative cycles were disrupted, big trees succumbed to disease and decay, opening large gaps in the forest. With no new seedlings to repair the damage, the Madeira Vine (*Andredera cordifolia*), another South American native, took over the exposed understory, further impeding regeneration. Only a circle of trees now survives.

In recent years, flying foxes found the growing number of sun-warmed gaps among the few places left ideally suited for them. During the warm season from September to May, this habitat is one of the last major breeding sites in NSW of the Grey-headed Flying Fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*).

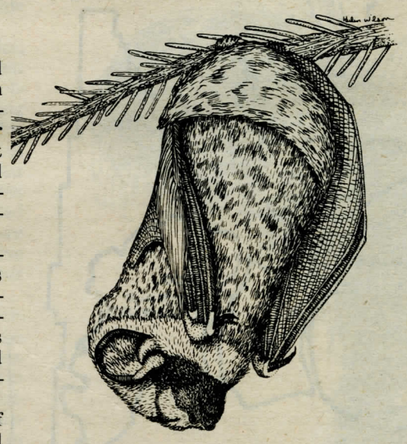
Since the settlement of Europeans in Australia only 200 years ago, flying foxes have suffered continual disturbance. Losing much of their original habitat when forests were cleared for agriculture, they were then shot as crop pests.

The primary foods in the diet of Australia's flying foxes are blossoms and nectar, but they also eat fruits and thus disperse many small-seeded rainforest species. They are primary pollinators for many of Australia's hardwood trees, some of which, including the abundant eucalypts, might die without their services. Unless natural food is scarce, flying foxes do not normally eat commercial fruit, but the irregular nature of their primary food supply occasionally leads some to raid orchards. With more native forests replaced by orchards in recent years, the problem has increased, especially where groves have been cleared from rainforests. Recently, droughts and resultant brush fires have driven bats long distances in search of food and habitat.

In Bellingen, pressure is now being levied on the Shire Council to rid the island of flying foxes. Fruit growers claim the bats are causing crop damage. Newspaper editorials have blamed the bats for destroying the remaining rainforest. Although the New South Wales government protected four species of flying foxes in that state in 1985, the legislation is subject to review after three years, and the bats may be declared locally unprotected where considered necessary. Under the legislation, farmers who document flying fox damage to their orchards already can obtain special permits to deal with specific cases. Furthermore, recent trials with netting, which excludes both bats and birds, show it to be a cost-effective method of protecting orchards.

The flying foxes on Bellingen Island are a symptom, not the cause of degeneration of the island's rainforest. The bats arrived at the end of a long period of deterioration and after loss of other breeding habitats. Small areas of the rainforest are now recovering. The bats are insignificant introducers of weeds, and restoration is not hampered by their presence.

Letters of support to protect this maternity colony of Grey-headed Flying Foxes are needed now. To voice concern, write: Gordon Braithwaite, Shire President, Bellingen Shire Council, Bellingen NSW 2454, Australia.



Black River Invaded By ORVs

Black River, in the Ozark Mountains of Missouri, has become a playground for drivers of all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles and other such vile modes of transport. On holiday weekends the river is attacked by thousands of motorists driving through the shallow and formerly clear waters, greatly increasing their turbidity. Last Memorial Day, 6000 ORVs in a six-mile stretch near Lesterville stopped fish from spawning and drove canoeists downstream. (*Newsweek*)

Tehri Dam Plans Proceed

The following report comes from Asia-Pacific People's Environment Network (APPEN). Coordinated by Friends of the Earth Malaysia, APPEN can be contacted c/o Sahabat Alam Malaysia, 37, Lorong Birch, 10250 Penang, West Malaysia:

APPEN and members of the Tehri Bandh Virodhi Sangharsh Samiti (Anti-Tehri Dam Struggle Committee) in India were shocked to learn that their case in the Supreme Court against the construction of the US$1.4 billion, 260-metre-high Tehri Dam has been overlooked and a political decision has been made at the highest level to go ahead with the project. The sudden announcement by the Government of India that a substantial portion of the 300 million roubles of Soviet assistance to India would go for the construction of the Tehri Dam came as a bombshell to environmentalists as well as the people of Tehri who are determined to save their beautiful hills.

The Department of Environment had rejected the dam project because of the adverse impact it would have on the fragile ecosystem of the Himalaya. But the Government disregarded the advice of the Department because the Russians were eager to assist India, preferably in the nuclear energy field. When that offer was brushed aside some other project had to be found. Tehri Dam, caught in litigation, was starving for funds and the Soviet assistance was diverted to it.

Tehri is a town of 12,000 near the confluence of the Bhagirathi and Bhilangana, two tributaries of the Ganges fed by Himalayan snow. The rock-filled dam a kilometre from Tehri would feed an underground powerhouse with a racing torrent to generate 2000 megawatts of electricity — enough to supply much of the State of Uttar Pradesh. It would be the second largest dam in Asia. The planned 42-square-kilometre lake would submerge the town and its 72 satellite villages. The Anti-Tehri Committee is concerned that the dam's reservoir could induce an earthquake. Such reservoir-induced earthquakes have occurred at a number sites around the world.

Please send polite letters of opposition to: HE Mr Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister, The PM Secretariat, South Block, New Delhi - 110011, India; and to Chief Editor, Times of India, 7 Bahdur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi - 2, India.

Ping-Pong Project Pronounced Promising

The US Forest Service recently reported that it successfully used ping-pong balls filled with an incendiary chemical mixture to set a controlled fire in central Utah. The Forest Service commonly uses napalm-like jellied petroleum, applied by helicopter, to start fires, but found ping-pong balls to be cheaper and more effective. Ping-pong ball bombs have the advantage of starting fires on the forest floor rather than in the treetops. With this new technique, a helicopter flies to the burn site, over which a dispensing machine then unloads hundreds of the poison balls. The balls burst into flame upon impact. The Freddies' pilot ping-pong project involved burning 1300 acres of fir trees to prepare for planting "more desirable trees" (spruce) and grass, ostensibly to improve Elk and Mule Deer habitat.

Snowmobilers Unite Against Wilderness

During the Annual International Snowmobile Congress, in Burlington, Vermont, June 10-13, snowmobilers organized a national task force to fight wilderness proposals. The task force will include all presidents of state snowmobile associations and will be chaired by Darryl Harris, publisher of *Snowmobile West* and *Blue Ribbon* magazines. The force's initial assignment is to find co-sponsors of legislation, proposed by Over Snow Access Inc. of Big Timber, Montana, that would amend the Wilderness Act to allow snowmobile use in Wilderness Areas. The force will also work with the Blue Ribbon Coalition to fight further closure of lands to snowmobiles. Meanwhile the International Snowmobile Tourism Council will continue to "promote snowmobile tourism throughout the North American Continent." (*Snowmobile West*, 9-87. No doubt many of you will want to contribute ideas to this edifyng periodical: POB 981, Idaho Falls, ID 83405.)

Freddies Guillotine Gila!

by Leon Czolgosz

The Gila National Forest in southwestern New Mexico is not as well known nationally among outdoor *cognoscenti* as such places as the Sierra Nevada, the Colorado Rockies, or even the Sangre de Cristo of northern New Mexico. Yet the Gila has its admirers, who prefer it for its plant and animal diversity, the subtle beauty of its deep, rugged canyons and densely forested mountain tops, and above all for its relative isolation from the crowds of modern industrial civilization.

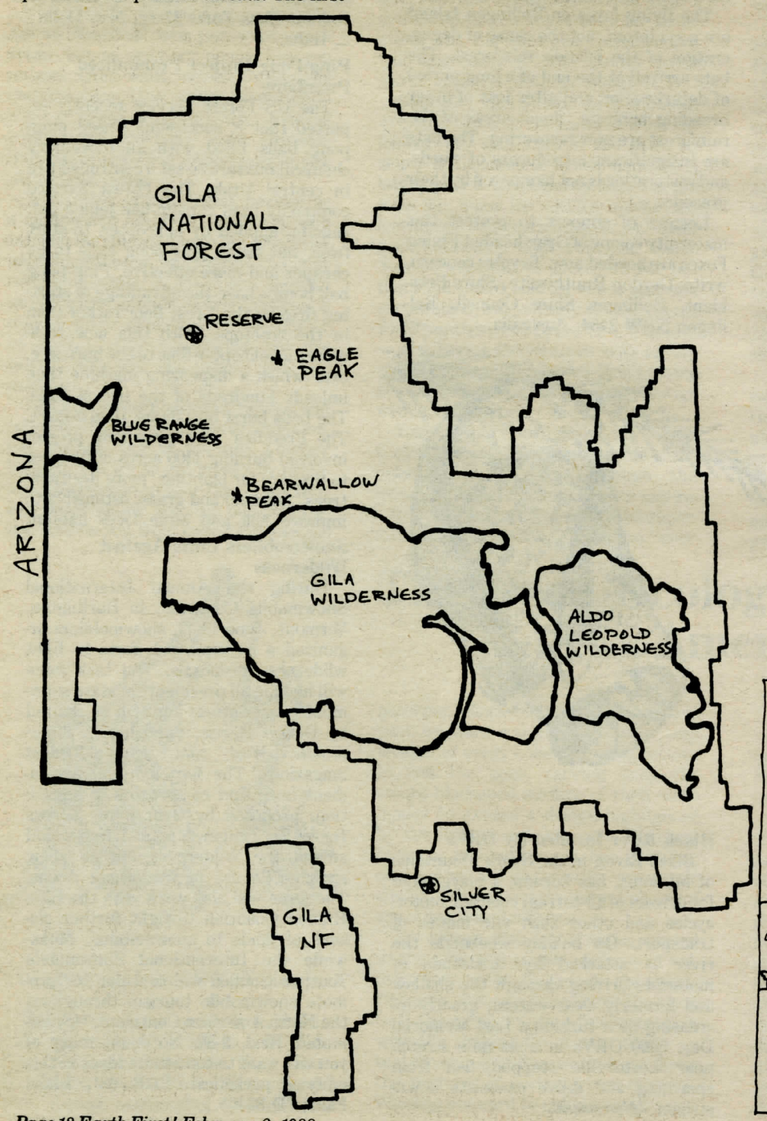
The Gila has not been immune from the onslaught of that civilization. As early as the turn of the century, the sheep and cattle barons (who could not safely settle the region until the Apaches were suppressed in the 1880's) were causing severe overgrazing, which persists today. "Predator Control" resulted in the extinction of the native subspecies of Grizzly Bear, as well as the Mexican Wolf, early in the 20th century. Even earlier, irresponsible hunting, much of it "market hunting" for mining camps, resulted in the same fate for Merriam's Elk, which once roamed in herds of hundreds. Mining came early to the Gila — the greed for gold caused miners to risk the wrath of such Apache notables as Victorio and Geronimo in the 1860's and '70's, with often fatal results. But most early mining camps, such as Cooney, vanished, and others, such as Mogollon and Pinos Altos, dwindled into somnolence, despite periodic revivals of mining. At present the only large-scale mining within the Forest is an underground copper mine near Pinos Altos. Mogollon is largely a "ghost town" for tourists, although there is a small mill nearby which processes ore that was discarded in the old days as unprofitable. However, large-scale open pit copper mining does take place south of the Forest, at Tyrone and Santa Rita. As a consequence, mining interests are powerful in Grant County, where the headquarters of the Gila National Forest are located.

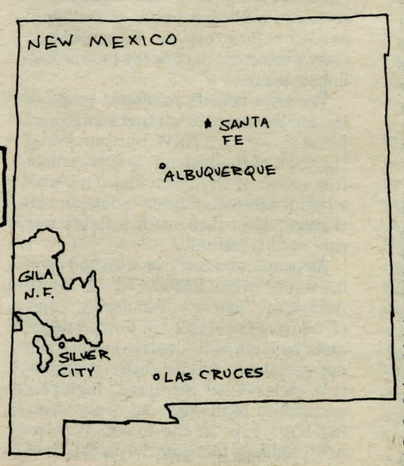
Past impacts on the Gila National Forest pale into insignificance compared to two present threats. The first

The Stone Containers mill in Reserve runs 24 hours a day. Photo by Leon Czolgosz.

of these is recent seismographic exploration of the Gila for oil and gas. For the past two years, crews of Western Geophysical, Inc., have swarmed over the northern half of the Forest. The energy threat is still theoretical, however. Two wells have been drilled, but it's too early to predict the potential for large-scale drilling. The other threat, unfortunately, is far from theoretical. It is the logging practices (in effect, timber mining) of the US Forest Service, the supposed "steward" of the Gila National Forest. In addition to these two growing threats, is, of course, the ongoing problem of overgrazing by livestock.

Officials of the Gila National Forest administer 3.3 million acres. This includes about 2.7 million acres of the Gila National Forest proper, and 600,000 acres of the Apache National Forest that have been administered by Gila officials for many years and for all practical purposes are part of the Gila. This makes the Gila the fourth largest National Forest in the lower 48, barely exceeded in size by the Bridger-Teton and the two Nevada National Forests.





It is a biologically diverse region — the meeting ground of the Rocky Mountains, Sierra Madre, Sonoran Desert, Chihuahuan Desert, Great Plains, and Great Basin: Deep canyons with riparian bosques of cottonwood, sycamore, ash and willow give way to rolling hills covered with pinyon and juniper. Large natural grasslands were common before the Forest Service introduced fire suppression, and one such area still existing, T-Bar Park, was large enough to be inventoried as a roadless area by the Forest Service during RARE II. Above the pinyon-juniper zone are Ponderosa Pines. The Gila includes part of the largest continuous Ponderosa forest in the world, a forest which extends northwest well into Arizona. The Arizona portion has been heavily logged for decades, but in the Gila much old growth survives, including cathedral-like groves of giant, ancient Ponderosas which the early settlers so aptly named "parks." Above the Ponderosas are dense forests of Engelmann Spruce, White Fir and Douglas Fir, with stands of Aspen interspersed, frequently in old burn areas.

Despite the ravages of early hunters and trappers on the Gila's fauna, there is still a relative diversity and abundance of wildlife. Elk were reintroduced in the 1920's, and although they are not of the original subspecies native to the region, they have thrived in substantial numbers, particularly in the less-developed portions of the Forest. Mule Deer are common, and the rarer Coue's White-tailed Deer (a subspecies) is occasionally seen. Pronghorn are found in small numbers in the Gila's grasslands and parks. In lower-elevation canyons, Javelina are not uncommon, and the western part of the Forest (and especially the lower canyon of the San Francisco River) is home to several hundred Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep. Black Bear, despite heavy hunting pressure, are still common in the Gila's remaining roadless areas. The Mountain Lion, persecuted here as virtually everywhere, is present but rarely seen. The trapping fraternity are active in the Gila, as they are in most of rural America, but despite their efforts such "furbearers" as Bobcat and Red Fox still hang on, as, of course, does the resourceful Coyote. The Coatimundi reaches its northeastern limit on the Gila, as do the Gila Monster, Arizona Coral Snake and Northern Black Hawk. Large flocks of Wild Turkeys roam throughout the Forest, even in some of the lower canyons. Other bird species found in the Gila include both Golden and Bald Eagles (the latter are winter visitors). Great Blue Herons and Sandhill Cranes visit the larger streams, again, generally in the winter. A number of birds of the Rocky Mountains reach the southern limit of their range in the Gila, while others from the Mexican highlands and Sonoran Desert reach their northern limit.

The Gila is also home to a unique plant, Gooding's Onion. Found only in Catron County, New Mexico, and in a few sites in Arizona, this small plant has been nominated for listing as "threatened" by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The state of New Mexico has already listed it as "threatened." As it is found only in high-elevation mixed-conifer forests, and is intolerant of such disturbances as logging and grazing, its continued existence is imperiled by timber sales on the Gila. The onion deserves more attention from environmentalists than it is presently receiving.

Although the Gila was a major population center at the time of the Mimbres Culture (c. 1200 AD), it was but lightly touched by humans at the time of the arrival of Europeans in North America. Apaches visited the region primarily in small hunting bands. In the early mining period the human population burgeoned, then declined as most mines played out or became uneconomical to work. Even today, the Gila is sparsely populated by the standards of the late 20th century. Most of the Gila National Forest lies within Catron County, the largest county in the state. Yet this 6800-square-mile county contained only 2700 residents at the time of the 1980 census. Indeed, more people lived in Catron County in 1940 than live there today. The county seat of Reserve (referred to as "Reverse" by jesting locals) has a population of about 500. Other portions of the Forest lie in Sierra, Hidalgo and Grant counties. Only the latter has anything resembling an urban culture. Silver City, the county seat of Grant County, boasts a population of 10,000 and is home to a branch of the state university system, and the Gila National Forest Supervisor's Office.

Given that the Gila lies roughly equidistant from three major cities — Albuquerque, El Paso and Tucson — and that it attracts recreationists (hunters, fishermen, campers, hikers) from each, one might think the Forest Service would consider recreation the highest use of the Gila. Yet the recreational aspect of the Forest is discounted, not just by the Forest Service but by most local residents themselves. The Forest Service sees commercial timber production as the primary mission of the Gila, and forage production for the livestock industry as secondary. Recreation is a distant third. This image of the Gila as a primary producer of lumber and beef is probably nowhere stronger than in Catron County. Of course, neither of these industries could exist in the region without heavy subsidies (direct and indirect) from the US Government. There is a subtle irony in this, since Catron's ranchers and loggers think of themselves as rugged individualists and as being anti-big government, and tend to vote for conservative Republicans for public office.

One seeming "bright spot" in the Gila has been in the matter of Wilderness. The Gila, of course, is the home of the Gila Wilderness, the first officially designated Wilderness in the nation, and it is difficult to think of the Gila without thinking of Aldo Leopold. Thanks largely to Leopold's foresight, the Gila today has more Wilderness than any other southwestern Forest — over 789,000 acres in three units: The Gila Wilderness of 558,000 acres, the Aldo Leopold Wilderness of 202,000 acres and the Blue Range Wilderness of 30,000 acres. While it is fortunate that this much of the Gila is protected, one should put this in perspective. The original Gila Wilderness as established by Leopold in 1924 comprised a million acres in one contiguous piece; eight years later the Forest Service split this with the infamous North Star Road. And three-quarters of a million acres deserving of Wilderness protection, including three hundred thousand acres contiguous to the Gila and Aldo Leopold, were "released" for develop-

ment when the New Mexico Wilderness Bill was passed in 1980.

Logging is certainly the most visible and immediate of the many threats to the Gila. The Forest Service currently tries to sell an average of 30 million board feet (MMBF) a year of "sawtimber" from the Gila. What the Forest Service offers for sale and what they actually sell are not always the same, but recently the Forest Service has nearly been achieving their goal. An additional 1/2 MMBF of pulpwood are sold annually, as are about 11 MMBF of fuelwood. While the above figures may not seem like much to someone on the West Coast, where like amounts are sometimes cut from a single Ranger District, this annual cut is a tremendous amount for a southwestern Forest like the Gila, where the amount of standing biomass in a given area is far less than in a moister region like Northern California, Oregon or Washington. Moreover, of the Gila's 3.3 million acres, at least 1.5 million acres are either unforested (grassland) or covered with pinyon and juniper, and some of the remainder is too steep to log even by Forest Service standards. Thus the logging is being concentrated on a relatively small part of the Forest. Under the recently approved Gila Forest Plan, the Forest Service expects to continue cutting 30 MMBF/year of sawtimber indefinitely, and plans to increase cutting of pulpwood to 4 MMBF/year.

Most of the trees cut on the Gila National Forest pass through the mill in Reserve. This mill, formerly owned by Southwestern Forest Industries, was recently acquired by Stone Container, Inc., a Chicago-based behemoth which owns pulp mills in the upper Midwest and which specializes in paper products. It's probably no coincidence that since Stone acquired the mill, rumors have been heard that a pulp mill may eventually be built in Reserve. The amount of pulpwood presently cut on the Gila is small, largely due to the fact that the nearest pulp mill is in Arizona.

The Forest Service would have the public believe that under the new Forest Plan, they have actually reduced the level of timber cutting from past levels. This is not strictly true. The FS says that they have reduced the "allowable cut" from 40 MMBF/year in the 1970's to the present 30 MMBF. While it's true that for a time the Gila had an allowable cut of 40 MMBF, due to low demand, even in those years the amount actually sold *never*approached 40 MMBF. So in setting the allowable cut more in line with economic reality, the FS has taken credit for a reduction that is more fiction than fact. Furthermore, cutting levels in the 1970's reached all time highs on many National Forests. On the Gila, the average annual cut was perhaps 20MMBF in the 1960's and perhaps only 10MMBF in the 1950's. (These are rough estimates, based on talks with FS personnel. The FS is more concerned with day-to-day business than history, so accurate records are hard to find.)

The current "allowable cut," 30 MMBF/year, is well within the annual rate of regeneration, according to the Forest Service's calculations. In reality, this figure is only obtainable so long as the Gila liquidates its last large stands of old growth, which the FS is now in the process of doing. Many current timber sales (including most of the largest sales) are in previously roadless areas, and these sales involve the construction of a massive road system, effectively wiping out thousands of acres of roadless country each year.

Since the Gila National Forest maintains a "Ten Year Timber Sale Program," a document which lists all timber sales planned during the next ten years, it's possible to compare the realities of these sales with the self-serving, optimistic generalities found in the Forest Plan.

The Forest Plan states that over the next 50 years, the Gila will "develop" only 70,419 acres of roadless country, out of 699,000 acres of roadless country (outside of designated Wilderness) currently found on the Forest. Of this amount, 20,611 acres, or 3%, will be "developed" during the first ten years. Well, now, this sounds moderate, doesn't it? But is it a true figure? An examination of the Forest Service's own figures suggests otherwise.

During RARE II (the Forest Service's second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation) in the late 1970's, the Gila National Forest inventoried about 850,000 acres of roadless country. The criteria for "roadless country" used during RARE II were fairly strict. Crude roads were used to eliminate areas from consideration as "roadless," and with few exceptions, the FS wouldn't qualify an area as roadless unless it was of at least 5000 acres in size.

The current figure of almost 700,000 acres of roadless country cited in the Forest Plan would seem to square with the RARE II figures, once allowance is made for areas designated as Wilderness in the 1980 New Mexico Wilderness Bill, and for roadless areas which have been logged and roaded in the last decade. So it would seem that the Forest Service is still adhering to the RARE II definition of "roadless," in which areas of less than 5000 acres are excluded.

Since the "Ten Year Timber Sale Program" tells the locations, acreages, board feet, and mileages of roads to be constructed for timber sales of the next ten years, we can estimate how much roadless country will be lost in the next ten years — and compare that figure with the FS figure of 20,6ll acres.

During the ten years of the latest edition of the timber sale program, 1987-1996, there are 39 timber sales listed. The amount of timber to be cut each year averages the 30 MMBF FS goal. New road construction averages 57 miles a year. Sixteen of the 39 sales are entirely or largely within former RARE II roadless areas. Over 34,000 acres will be logged in these 16 sales, and over half of that 34,000 acres will be country that is now roadless. So, though the figure of 20,611 used by the Forest Service may be accurate, the Forest Service speaks of this roadless acreage as being *"developed,"* but what they really mean is *"logged."* This is an important difference, not merely a matter of semantics. The 20,611 acres is the area to be *cut over.* Now, in a Forest Service timber sale, the area actually logged is divided into many individual "units," rarely more than a few hundred acres in size, and widely separated by unlogged areas. This is for good reason — to promote regrowth of trees, and to provide refuge for wildlife. Yet these unlogged areas are rarely more than 1000 acres in size, and since they are separated from other unlogged areas by the network of roads that is always left after a timber sale, these areas are no longer "roadless." It is fair to estimate that for every acre logged, *two* additional acres of roadless land will be irreparably harmed. *Even though this substantial additional acreage can no longer be considered as "roadless," even by the Forest Service's own criteria for "roadless," the Forest Plan does not list this land as "developed."*

Therefore, the Forest Plan's statement that only 20,6ll acres of roadless country on the Gila will be "developed" in the next ten years is totally false. They *should*state that "20,6ll acres of roadless country will be *logged,* and 60,000 acres of roadless country will be *developed.* We can similarly discount the Forest Service figure of 70,419 roadless acres to be "developed" over the 50 years of the Forest Plan. Instead, we should read this as "70,419 acres to be *logged* and over 200,000 roadless acres to be *developed* over the next 50 years". An error like this can hardly be accidental. The FS appears to be *deliberately* understating the impact of the Forest Plan on roadless country, to make the plan more palatable. We should wonder if the entire Plan is as inaccurate as this portion. Indeed, the FS statement that over the 50 years of the Forest Plan only "12%" of the Gila's old growth will be cut is hard to believe when one has seen the logging occurring in the Gila today. Unfortunately, the Plan doesn't provide enough data on how the FS arrived at this figure for us to critique it.

We might well wonder why, if so few of the Gila's trees are to be cut as the Forest Plan implies, it will be necessary, by the last decade of the Plan, to do fully half of the logging in the Gila on steep (i.e., over 40%) slopes. At present, 17% of the logging on the Gila takes place on what the FS defines as steep slopes. To make it feasible to log increasingly steep slopes, the Forest Service is introducing cable logging systems into the Gila, a type of logging rarely seen in the Southwest until now. Cable systems make it possible to log slopes too steep to allow tractor logging (the method usually used heretofore), but they are also much more expensive. Fortunately for the loggers, the Forest Service computes the estimated cost of getting the trees out of a sale area *before* they set the minimum amount to be bid on the timber. Of course, the government absorbs the extra cost. Since the Forest Service doesn't have to make money on their timber sales, they can safely ignore such irrelevancies as economics. On all but a few Gila timber sales, the government makes no money; and most of the large sales, especially those requiring extensive road construction, lose money. On the recent Black Burro sale, which destroyed several thousand acres of roadless country, the government recouped about 80 cents per dollar invested. This was typical of Gila timber sales (and of timber sales on most National Forests in the country).

Log deck on the Black Burro Timber Sale, Gila NF. Photo by Leon Czolgosz.

In defense of their roadbuilding program, the Forest Service is apt to point out that they close many of the roads after timber sales take place. The Gila Forest Plan states that 65% of roads to be constructed will be closed after logging is over. However, like similar statements in the Plan, this is misleading. When the Forest Service "closes" a road, the standard practice is to erect a locked gate. Forest Service personnel may continue to use the road on "official" business, and often those who possess keys to the locks use the roads on personal business as well. Even the general public is not really kept out, since anyone with an all-terrain cycle or 4-wheel ATV can drive past the gate. And today's member of the bumpkin proletariat is apt to have an ATC or ATV in the bed of his pickup, and is not deterred by signs prohibiting vehicle entry. (The Forest Service encases the padlocks in a collar of heavy-guage steel, since the public formerly was wont to shoot away the locks with high-powered rifles.) Even in the rare cases where the Forest Service erects an earthen barrier, the ATV crowd is not kept out. All this is somewhat moot, anyway, since under current logging practices in the Gila, a mere *twenty* years after an area is first logged, it is likely to be logged again, even though the large old growth trees will be gone — eight inch trees are suitable for sawtimber on the Gila. At that time, roads which were closed are reconstructed.

Let's look at one roadless area on the Gila — the Eagle Peak roadless area, part of the Reserve Ranger District. In terms of management practices, Eagle Peak is a microcosm of the Forest as a whole. Eagle Peak is a small complex of mountains and canyons about ten miles (as the raven flies) from Reserve. The highest point, Eagle Peak, is nearly 10,000 feet in elevation, and is the most prominent mountain visible from Reserve. Most of the Gila's life zones are represented in the Eagle Peak area — with spruce/fir/aspen stands in the higher elevations, Ponderosa Pine in the middle zone, and pinon/juniper, interspersed with a few Ponderosas, in the lower elevations. Although a road was built to the Eagle Peak lookout in the 1950's, the surrounding terrain remained a roadless island in a somewhat developed part of the Gila. It has been a refuge for species intolerant of heavy development, such as Elk and Black Bear. During RARE II, the Forest Service inventoried over 30,000 acres here as roadless. This figure remained essentially unchanged until 1986, when the Black Burro Timber Sale became a reality. During this sale, 37.5 miles of roads were constructed, occupying about 1/4 of the former roadless area. This is just the beginning. This year (1988) the Forest Service plans the "Eagle Peak" Timber Sale. Add another 37 miles of new road construction, and remove another 1/4 of the original Eagle Peak roadless area. Then, in 1989, will come the "Buzzard" Timber Sale. This time, add 32 miles of road, and subtract another quarter of the original roadless area. So in four years (perhaps a little longer, since sometimes a timber sale doesn't take place for a year or two after it's originally scheduled), the 30,000-acre Eagle Peak roadless area will be whittled down to perhaps 7,500 acres. Even this remnant will likely be logged during some future "Ten Year Timber Sale Program."

Among other areas which will see chainsaw massacre and assault by bulldozer are: Glenwood District — Devil's Creek roadless area, largest such area inventoried during RARE II; Luna District — Aspen Mountain, Nolan and Frisco Box roadless areas; Reserve District — Wagon Tongue roadless area; Silver City District — Meadow Creek roadless area. There are also several timber sales scheduled for areas contiguous to the Gila Wilderness, areas which should have been included in the 1980 bill. And what happens after the current ten year period is over? Even if the Forest Service isn't *deliberately* trying to destroy roadless country for political reasons (and there's a good case for this interpretation), the pressure to log all the Gila's remaining roadless country will be irresistible, if the Freddies want to avoid reducing the amount of timber going to the mill. For despite the platitudes in the Forest Plan, the current logging rate on the Gila is not sustainable, except on a short-term basis.

This article has not dealt with the other main problem on the Gila, grazing, partly because grazing is already present, whereas logging threatens imminent doom to previously immune places. Yet the long-term damage caused by grazing is at least as great as that caused by logging. Suffice to say that overgrazing on the Gila is so blatant that even the Forest Service, in the Forest Plan, acknowledges the problem. Yet, with typical arrogance, the FS states that with improved "management" they can actually *increase* range capacity and allow *more* cows in the Gila.

So, what is to be done about the grim scenario for the Gila that the Forest Plan presents? The Forest Service has been extremely resistant to public pressure (but not to the lumber companies, mining companies, and ranchers). The Gila Plan was approved by Sotero Muniz, the Regional Forester, in November of 1986. It is now being appealed (as are most Forest Plans in the nation) by a coalition of environmental groups, including The Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club. Experience should teach us not to expect more than token changes in the Plan resulting from the appeal. We must continue to push for total elimination of the Forest Service's road budget, as a short term goal — this would slow their timber sale program, since so much of it depends on

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EF! Proposes 19 Million Acres of Wilderness in Arizona

by Lagarto Cornudo

We will have a truly civil society only when our presence contributes to the health of the planet, to Gaia (the global system) and to each bioregion. Until that time, we need the self-restraint mechanism of preserves, "where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain." As described in the Wilderness Act of 1964, quoted here, we need to set aside officially designated "Wilderness."

But the Wilderness Act is clearly anthropocentric. It ignores all the non-human reasons for preserving wilderness, defining Wilderness Areas as places for "solitude" and "primitive or unconfined types of recreation." Such areas "may also contain ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value," and thus have some other human use. Perhaps the major mission of Earth First! is to elevate other values, biocentric values, to the top of our society's priorities. Wilderness should be protected for the good of the land and *all* beings that depend on it.

With this in mind, Arizona EF! offers the 19 million-acre 1988 Earth First! Arizona Wilderness Proposal. It deals primarily with land controlled by the Bureau of Livestock and Mining (BLM), and supplements our previous six million-acre proposal covering mostly Forest Circus land (Beltane, 1984).

Our proposal deals with areas that are roadless or should be. We did not stick to the rugged Wilderness Study Areas chosen by the BLM, since wilderness should not be restricted to mountains. Most of those areas are already protected to a certain degree simply by being too rough or too hot for most human uses. We tried to draw boundaries that are sensitive to the needs of wildlife and to the healthy functioning of natural ecosystems. We included some areas that have suffered from human abuse, setting them aside to allow natural regeneration of the historic desert grasslands. We kept to the artificial, political boundaries of "Arizona" to match proposals presented by Earth First!ers in neighboring states and in recognition that wilderness preservation in Mexico involves a whole different set of bureaucracies. (Several of our areas do overlap into other states, but our listing reflects only the acreage in Arizona.)

In addition to these general considerations, we feel that some areas should be given Wilderness protection to address specific issues. Priority should be given to preserving intact the last large remnants of true wilderness in the region, Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge and the Grand Canyon ecosystem. Sufficient habitat should be provided for reintroduction of large native predators, and for rare or threatened species. Also, whole watersheds should be preserved. Here are a few examples:

The Cabeza Prieta NWR forms the core of the largest remaining pristine desert wilderness in the Southwest. It has both rugged mountain ranges and broad gentle valleys essentially untouched by man. The main opposition to its designation comes from hunters who want to drive their trucks in to kill four Bighorn Sheep each year (strange quirk in a refuge for wildlife). We propose Cabeza Prieta as the heart of a Sonoran Biosphere Reserve that would give Wilderness status to all lands between Yuma and Ajo, and would tie into the existing Organ Pipe Wilderness and the Pinacate National Park in Sonora.

Such a designation would take away part of the military playground known as the Goldwater (or Luke Williams) Air Force Range. Recognizing the importance of practice for jet jockeys, and seeing a clear need for more public appreciation of this vital use of our tax dollars, we propose an alternate corridor for bombing runs, dogfights, and such. The military should practice over the broad basin that stretches from just south of Wickenburg to slightly north of Florence, sometimes called "The Valley of the Sun."

Arizona offers several great opportunities for reintroduction of species that need large ranges free from humans. The existing Pajarita Wilderness, near Nogales, should be greatly expanded to allow reintroduction and recovery of the Mexican Wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*), Jaguar and Jaguarundi. Similar reintroductions should be made in the Canelo Hills/Huachuca Mountains Wilderness Areas, and in the southern Peloncillo Mountains. The Arizona Strip should be set aside for reintroduction of the Great Basin Wolf (*Canis lupus youngi*), and the Blue Range should become a preserve for the Grizzly Bear.

Some Wilderness Areas should be designated to preserve rare or threatened species. A prime example is the Pinaleno Mountain Range (Mt. Graham), which harbors dozens of endemic species and subspecies, along with other endangered flora and fauna. All roads and other human "improvements" should be removed from Mt. Graham, and it should be treated as a

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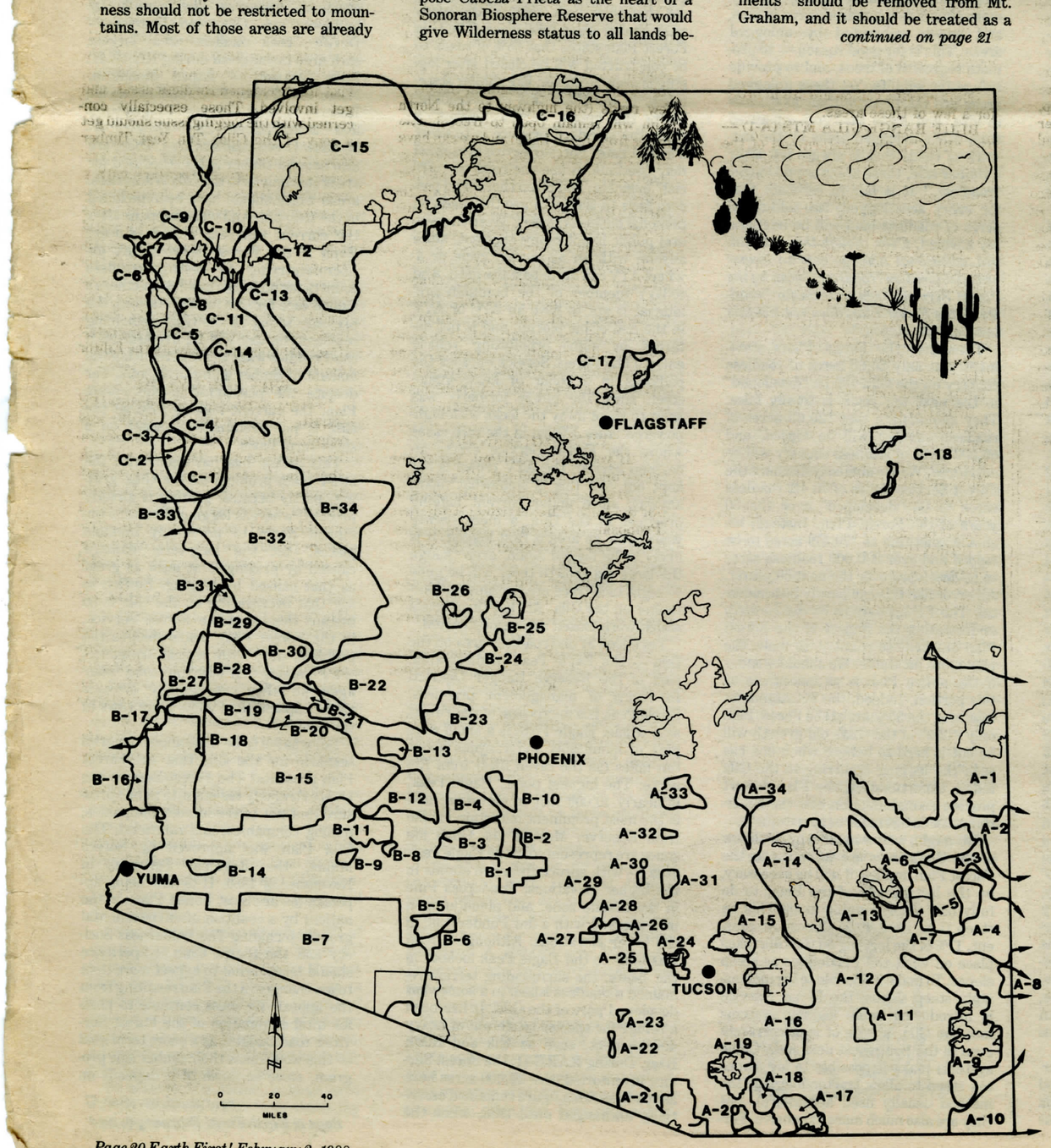


THE EARTH FIRST! ARIZONA WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

A. SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA
1. Blue Range/Gila River/Gila Mts — 1,000,000*
2. Hells Hole — 80,000*
3. Peloncillo Mts North — 70,000
4. Peloncillo Mts — 230,000*
5. Javelina Peak - 130,000
6. Foote Draw — 45,000
7. Oak Draw — 45,000
8. San Simon — 35,000*
9. Chiricahua/Dos Cabezas Mts — 400,000!
10. Peloncillo Mts South — 230,000*
11. Dragoon Mts — 45,000
12. Willcox Playa — 30,000
13. Kane Spring Mt — 45,000
14. Galiuro/Aravaipa/Santa Theresa/Mt Graham — 900,000!
15. Rincon/Catalina — 400,000!
16. Whetstone Mts — 45,000
17. Huachuca Mts — 80,000!
18. Canelo Hills (2 units) — 90,000
19. Santa Rita Mts — 100,000!
20. East Patagonia Mts (2 units) — 40,000
21. Patagonia/Tumacacori — 250,000!
22. Baboquivari — 7,500
23. Coyote Mts — 9,000
24. Tucson Mts — 20,000!
25. Blanco Wash — 45,000
26. Silver Bell Mts — 15,000
27. Aguirre Valley — 12,000
28. Mammoth Wash — 20,000
29. Sawtooth Mts — 12,000
30. Picacho Mts — 6,400
31. Durham Wash —25,000
32. Cactus Forest — 7,000
33. White Canyon — 80,000
34. Needle's Eye — 25,000

B. WESTERN ARIZONA
1. Table Top/Sand Tank — 150,000
2. Vekol Wash — 12,000
3. Maricopa Mts South — 100,000
4. Maricopa Mts North — 150,000
5. Batamote Mts — 55,000
6. Chuapo Wash — 35,000
7. Cabeza Prieta — 1,800,000!
8. Piedra — 9,000
9. Stanwix — 19,000
10. Sierra Estrella — 60,000
11. Painted Rocks — 80,000
12. Woolsey Peak/Signal Mt — 200,000
13. Saddle Mt — 45,000
14. Muggins Mt — 30,000
15. Kofa — 1,300,000
16. Trigo/Imperial — 90,000*
17. Colorado River — 30,000
18. Dome Rock Mts — 75,000
19. New Water Mts — 120,000
20. Upper Bouse Wash — 60,000
21. Little Harquahala Mts — 50,000
22. Harquahala/Big Horn/Vulture — 530,000
23. White Tanks/Hassayampa — 115,000
24. Hells Canyon — 55,000
25. Castle Creek — 100,000
26. Hassayampa River Canyon — 35,000
27. La Posa Plain — 100,000
28. Plomosa Mts — 200,000
29. Cactus Plain — 90,000
30. Bouse/Harcuvar — 160,000
31. Gibralter Mt — 35,000
32. Bill Williams/Arrastra/Hualapai — 2,000,000
33. Topock Gorge — 45,000*
34. Burro Creek — 300,000

C. NORTHERN ARIZONA
1. Black Mesa (Warm Springs) — 150,000
2. Mohave Valley South — 45,000
3. Mohave Valley North — 30,000
4. Mt. Nutt — 70,000
5. Black Mts — 275,000
6. Willow Beach — 25,000
7. Mt Wilson — 100,000
8. Detrital Valley — 80,000
9. Temple Bar — 40,000
10. White Hills — 70,000
11. Hualapai Wash — 50,000
12. Grapevine Mesa — 90,000
13. Grand Wash Cliffs — 200,000
14. Cerbat Mts — 80,000
15. Grand Canyon/Arizona Strip — 4,300,000!*
16. Paria — 480,000!*
17. Strawberry Crater/Wupatki (2 units) — 100,000!
18. Petrified Forest (2 units) — 60,000!

TOTAL ACREAGE 19 million

*Additional acreage in New Mexico, California, Nevada or Utah.
! Includes already designated Wilderness Area in total acreage.

Keeping Arizona Arizona

By Dave Foreman

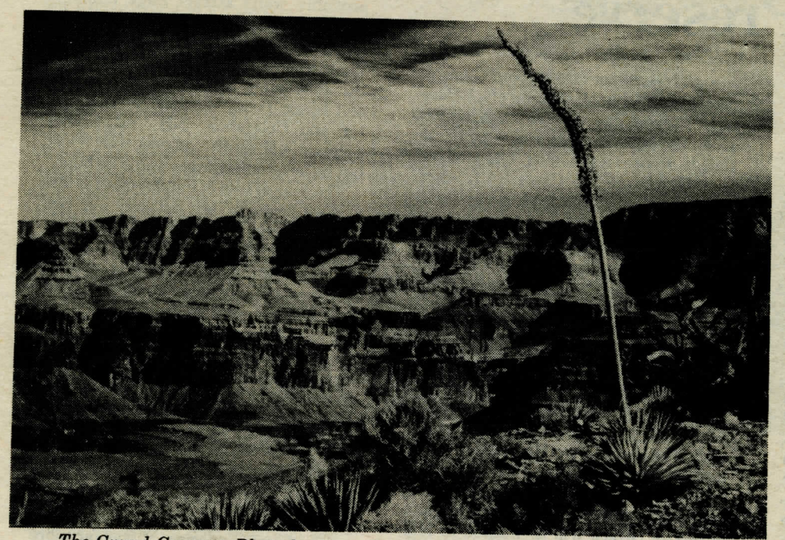
Political boundaries seldom follow ecological boundaries and Arizona is no exception. Within the human boundary of "Arizona" lie several natural provinces defined by R. G. Bailey in 1976: the Mexican Highlands Shrub Steppe, Upper Gila Mountains Forest, American Desert, and Colorado Plateau. We know the natural divisions of Arizona also as the Sierra Madre, Chihuahuan Desert, Rocky Mountains, Sonoran Desert, Mohave Desert, and Colorado Plateau. Each has its natives: oaks, Chihuahua Pine, Coatimundi, Jaguar for the Sierra Madre; yucca-grassland for the Chihuahuan Desert; Engelmann Spruce, Ponderosa Pine, Elk, trout for the Rocky Mountains; Saguaro, Gila Monster, Desert Bighorn for the Sonoran Desert; Joshua Tree for the Mohave Desert; and Colorado River Squawfish, Cliffrose, and pinyon-juniper for the Colorado Plateau.

In nature, boundaries are fluid, open, intergrading. Political boundaries try to be that way, too, but politicians defending the "nation" do their best to make these boundaries rigid even to the extent of brick walls and concertina wire and machine guns to keep people in or out, and ideas out or in. Nature enforces her boundaries more gently, with frosts, precipitation, and elevation.

Where I live I can step outside and see four nations of nature infiltrating one another, blending together — the Rocky Mountains grasping onto the high country of the Catalinas, the Sierra Madre stealing north in the Santa Ritas, the Chihuahaun Desert flowing in from the east, and the Sonoran Desert holding strong in the west. Plants and animals mix and explore new neighbors in such situations. Their easy integration makes one realize how tenuous, how irrelevant are the political affairs of our kind.

Yet, while our affairs may be tenuous and irrelevant in one sense, they are devastating. With cow, dirt bike, trap, thirty-ought-six, pickup truck, water pump, smelter, bulldozer, chainsaw, and greenback, our kind has been ravaging Arizona since Padre Kino strode up the Rio Magdalena three hundred years ago armed with Christianity and a herd of cattle. The pace of our destruction has picked up its tempo to a frenetic degree during the last hundred years and has gone berserk in my lifetime.

Arizona has lost more of her old-growth forest than has any other Western state; our riparian zones, so crucial for wildlife, have virtually disappeared; water tables have dropped and rivers have ceased to flow; the grass has gone into the livestockman's pockets and the soil to the Gulf of California. With this destruction of habitat and with outright campaigns of genocide, many of our most impressive citizens have disappeared into the mists of history and legend — Griz, Lobo, Jaguar, Ocelot. . . .



The Grand Canyon. Photo by Dave Foreman.

It is not the job of Earth First! simply to contain the flood of "civilization," of fecund humanity, it is our job as well to reclaim the asphalt, barren fields, ripped forests, and silent mountains.

That is what our 19 million acre Wilderness Proposal for BLM, National Park and National Wildlife Refuge lands (and some Forest Service lands) proposes to do. Return *Real Wilderness* to Arizona. Wilderness big enough to hold a wolf's howl, big enough for a Grizzly, big enough for a man or a woman to die in. . . .

It is visionary, yes. But it is also merely a beginning.

Some specific comments are in order for a few of these areas.

BLUE RANGE/GILA MTS (A-1) — The "Blue" is the western end of the largest complex of mountain wilderness in the Southwest, that of the Gila/Black Range/Blue Range country. It is important to tie big chunks of this country together so that Grizzly and wolf can be reintroduced and will flourish. Attached to the Blue from the south by the Eagle Creek area (owned by Phelps-Dodge but proposed for public acquisition) is the famed Box of the Gila River and the Gila Mountains, giving a Wilderness of extraordinary diversity. US Hwy 666, a narrow, winding, paved, lightly-used road, would be closed.

GALIURO/MT GRAHAM (A-14) — By closing a few dirt roads, a vast Wilderness consisting of the Galiuro Mts, Aravaipa Canyon, Santa Theresa Mts, and Mt Graham (Pinaleno Mts) is created. Mexican Wolf, Jaguar, Oceolot and possibly Grizzly reintroductions would be carried out here.

KOFA (B-15) — By closing minor dirt roads, nearly the entire Kofa National Wildlife Refuge can be combined with wild BLM country to the east for a stunning 1.3 million acre expanse of desert mountains and plains nearly rivaling the exquisite Cabeza Prieta country to the south.

COLORADO RIVER (B-16 & B-33) — The Colorado is one of the most abused rivers in North America. Even on its undammed stretches along the Arizona/California border, motorboats send waves crashing against the silence. In these two slices of the Colorado in Imperial and Havasu NWRs, we propose Wilderness for the Colorado River, excluding motors, and connecting desert mountains in Arizona and California in single Wildernesses.

BILL WILLIAMS/ARRASTRA/HUALAPAI (B-32) — The Bill Williams is possibly the finest desert river left in Arizona. By taking out Alamo Dam, we return it to the wild. And by closing minor dirt roads, we tie together a number of BLM Wilderness Study Areas into a huge 2 million acre Wilderness where the Mohave and Sonoran Deserts meet. In one location, Saguaro, Joshua Tree, oak and juniper grow together.

GRAND CANYON/ARIZONA STRIP (C-15) — It's time to follow Teddy Roosevelt's advice, "Leave it as it is," for this world wonder and the adjacent Arizona Strip, one of the most remote areas in the United States. Get rid of the cows, the uranium mines, a few roads (the highway to the North Rim will remain open to free shuttle buses from Jacob Lake) and we can have a 4.3 million acre Wilderness including the Canyon, Kaibab Plateau, and the high desert plains and mountains of the Strip. Of course wolves and Griz will be returned, and Mountain Lion, Elk, and Pronghorn will be encouraged.

In general, all of the areas in our 19 million acre proposal will be managed for their ecological integrity. Where necessary, roads and other "improvements" will be closed, removed or allowed to deteriorate. Livestock grazing will be eliminated. Where state or private lands are included, they will be acquired and added to the federal estate.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

*** If you live in Arizona, write the Senators and members of Congress for Arizona expressing your support for the Earth First! Arizona Wilderness Proposal. Ask them to seriously consider it and to consider the ecological points it raises.**

*** If you live outside of Arizona, write to your members of Congress in support of the EF! Arizona Wilderness Proposal.**

Addresses: US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.

Dave Foreman has been exploring the Arizona wilderness since 1955 when he attended 4th grade in Yuma, Arizona.

Arizona Wild . . .

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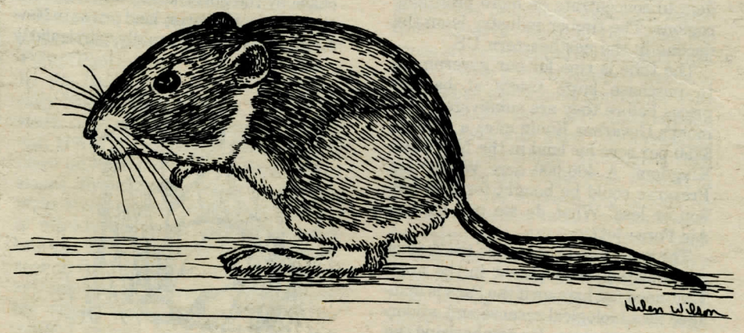
living biological museum. Perhaps Safford residents could attract tourists by building a telescope within their town limits large enough to see a squirrel's bushy tail on the mountain's highest peak.

The ideal Wilderness Areas would preserve whole natural ecosystems, as determined by watershed boundaries or broad vegetation communities. We have such a chance in Arizona's Blue Range Primitive Area and adjacent roadless lands. Our proposal takes in the entire Blue River watershed and much of the San Francisco River.

In closing, we wish to emphasize that wilderness management should consist almost exclusively of keeping out human intrusions into wild lands. That means eliminating human-controlled, four-legged, vegetation vacuum cleaners (cows and sheep). That also means keeping out gun-toting hunters to stop their predatory pressure on the best ungulate gene pools (bow and arrow or spear and atlatl may still be appropriate, especially when the targets are the aforementioned vacuum cleaners). And of course, anyone caught with an ORV would be required to dismantle it and pack out the pieces.

AZEF! activist Lagarto Cornudo is also known as "Horned Lizard" or "Horny Toad," although this is more a reflection of his predilection for reptiles than of any untoward virility.



Gila . . .

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subsidized road construction. But in the long run, only a complete reorganization of the Forest Service — something that would have to be imposed on the agency from outside — offers any hope of change. Unfortunately, the present political climate does not encourage this prospect.

While conservationists do exist in southwestern New Mexico, they tend to keep a low public profile, especially in Catron County. This is not likely to change any time soon. Anything perceived as a threat to logging and grazing is opposed in the region, and the local media, such as exists, is not sympathetic to the environment. The only newspaper in Silver City, *The Silver City Daily Press*, represents the interests of the copper companies who dominate Grant County's economy. The *Catron County Courier*, a weekly tabloid, is even worse. It is owned by one of the major public-lands ranchers (read welfare rancher). Logging unfortunately *does* represent a big part of Catron's economy: In addition to the more than 100 people employed by the mill in Reserve or by the sub-contractors who do the actual logging, the county receives much money from Forest Service revenue-sharing programs. In the fiscal year ending September 30, 1986, Catron County received $460,769 from the Forest Service, more than any other county in New Mexico. This money is used for schools and roads. Most of the money comes from timber sale fees — fortunately for the county, the amount is figured out of *gross* FS revenues, not net revenues. (In actuality, this "revenue-sharing" increases the loss to the US taxpayer, and in effect is an additional subsidy to a wasteful industry.)

Help for the Gila will have to come from outside the area. Here, one of the very qualities that makes the Gila so attractive, the fact that it is relatively "undiscovered," works to its detriment. The Gila needs more supporters. If you live in the Southwest, hike its canyons, visit its threatened roadless areas, and get involved. Those especially concerned with the logging issue should get a copy of the Gila's Ten Year Timber Sale Program. A somewhat dated version of the program, together with a map which locates sales, is in the *Environmental Impact Statement, Gila Forest Plan*. The Forest Service still may have copies of this document, although at last report few were left. On request, the Gila NF should be able to supply a separate copy of the Ten Year Timber Sale Program, however. Earth First! also has copies of the "Program." If you want one, please write the Editor and enclose a SASE.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

*** Please write your US senators (US Senate, Washington, DC 20510) and representatives (House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515) and ask that the Forest Service road budget be eliminated. With all the talk about cutting the deficit, you'd think it would be easy to do this, but the pro-timber lobby is strong. Also write Representative Sidney Yates (D-IL), and thank him for his efforts to cut the FS budget and urge him to continue the fight.**

*** Write in support of those appealing the Gila Forest Plan. Voice your disapproval of the Plan. Mention that it totally understates the impact on roadless country, and fails to address the overgrazing problem. Write:**
Sotero Muniz, Regional Forester, USFS, 517 Gold Ave. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102
Dale Robertson, Chief, Forest Service, POB 2417, Wash., DC 20013.

Leon Czolgosz is a former assistant editor of Earth First! *and is one of the foremost experts in the US on Forest Service issues.*

Northeast Kingdom Wilderness Park & Biological Preserve

by Jamie Sayen

I strongly support George Wuerthner's call for a Northeast Kingdom National Park for the northern Vermont bioregion. I have taken up the cause in an editorial for the newspaper for which I write in northern New Hampshire. But, I have reservations about George's plan, which I'll address briefly.

First is the notion of National Park. I reject any plan which proposes managing the Park along the lines of Yellowstone, Yosemite, etc. [which, of course, is not what George intends]. This Park must be a Northeast Kingdom Wilderness Park and Biological Preserve. It must be managed by ecological criteria only. Tourism must not be permitted to trash or trivialize the region's splendor. True wildness is feasible for the region because, while it is a magnificent example of Transition-Boreal wildlands, it has no spectacular tourist attractions like Old Faithful, so *Boobus tourista* will see no reason to visit.

Appropriate tourism (i.e., hikers and possibly limited animal-drawn wagons) could be accommodated. There would be absolutely no catering to the Winnebago/bumper sticker mentality. The other Parks pander to the worst elements of our culture. The visitor to NEKWP would be attracted to the wilderness for educational and spiritual reasons. The rich diversity of landforms and wildlife in the hills, valleys, and extensive wetlands would provide an educational experience obtainable in few other places.

Opportunities to study different ecosystems, plant-plant, plant-animal, and animal-animal relationships would abound. The Park would offer people opportunities to recover a sense of what it is like to live in harmony with the natural world. What an example we could set: People visiting wild places without harming them!

The Northeast Kingdom is sparsely populated and very poor. Essex County (the heart of the proposed park) has less than 7000 people, about 1.2% of Vermont's population, and down from its 1900 population of over 8000. Manufacturing, not logging or farming, provides 55% of personal income. The value of Vermont forest land is lowest in the Northeast Kingdom.

Since much of the Kingdom has been cut, and many of its native inhabitants have been driven to extinction locally, the area of the proposed Park cannot now be described as true wilderness. Labor-intensive healing work must be performed to enable the area to resume its natural evolution.

Logging roads, bridges, and dams must be carefully removed. Streams and commercially-cut forests must be restored. Work must be done to insure successful reintroduction of extirpated natives like Gray Wolf, Wolverine, Cougar, and Caribou. This healing process will take many decades. It will offer healthy alternative jobs to those who log the woods now.

Instead of typical tourist exhibits, the Park could feature exhibits illustrating methods of wilderness recovery. These could help folks from all around Turtle Island gain first-hand experience in how to begin the healing process in their own bioregion. Because the Kingdom's moist climate is conducive to rapid revegetation, results of the wilderness recovery efforts will quickly become apparent.

Reintroducing Gray Wolves will present a special challenge. Part of their niche has been taken by the Eastern Coyote (possibly a new species), which began to be observed less than 50 years ago. The dynamics of a Gray Wolf-Eastern Coyote dance in the Kingdom will be fascinating.

Doug Peacock's idea (Samhain 87) of creating a preserve for "problem" Grizzly Bears inspires me to suggest that the NEKWP also serve as a sanctuary for naughty Black Bears and other "problem" animals. It could also include a "halfway house" to de-domesticate wild animals which have been captured or injured by humans.

To achieve this vision, a large area will be required, which leads me to my second main reservation about George's proposal. I support creation of a Wilderness Park in the Northeast Kingdom along the boundary lines George draws (inside Routes 114 and 2, the Connecticut River and the Canadian border). But I would propose such a Park only in the context of a far larger wilderness area. The northern sector of New Hampshire (north of White Mountain National Forest) and the northern half of Maine should be included. I would call this the Caribou Wilderness because it encompasses most of the former range of the Caribou in the northeastern United States.

George described the wildlife and topography of the Northeast Kingdom well. Northern New Hampshire is, in many respects, similar. It is an area of several hundred thousand acres. It is very boggy. It has a growing population of Moose (which will be hunted in NH in 1988), and a significant Black Bear population (which is vulnerable to radio-collar hunting and poaching). It would be ideal for Cougar, Gray Wolf, Wolverine, Lynx and Caribou reintroduction. New Hampshire's northern tip lies north of the main range of the Appalachians, but is very mountainous, with many peaks exceeding 3000 feet in elevation. It is considerably more mountainous than the Northeast Kingdom.

These northern, privately owned lands are a mix of northern hardwood and spruce-fir. They are richer ecologically than White Mountain National Forest lands. Northern NH's forests are more heavily composed of hardwoods than are those of northern Maine.

A publisher in Augusta, Maine, Lance Tapley, is proposing the creation of a National Park or National Forest in Maine's northern woods. Earth First!'s Preserve Appalachian Wilderness task force supports the creation of a 10 million acre Wilderness in Maine, connected to Wilderness in northern New Hampshire and the Northeast Kingdom Wilderness Park to form a huge Caribou Wilderness. The Maine land is owned by timber companies which have used napalm to defoliate weed species (hardwoods such as maple!) so they could concentrate on the conifers which predominate.

In conjunction with our Canadian neighbors, we should make this Caribou Wilderness international. The long Quebec-Maine border should be erased. (The border area is now threatened by a $200 million ski development proposed for Mont Gosford.)

Several objections have been raised to this plan. Folks in this area rightfully distrust the federal government, and are opposed to being governed by Washington, DC. George and I have pointed out that at least DC has a mechanism for accountability, whereas corporations like Champion International make their own laws. If it becomes most profitable to do so, Champion will sell to speculators and developers, abandoning the area with no sense of responsibility to folks who have depended upon them.

In an age of conglomerate take-overs, large landholdings are used as collateral for "junk bonds." Employees of Champion cannot say whether these Northeast Kingdom holdings figure in the company's long-range plans. Champion is now doing liquidation cutting there. The nearest Champion mill is 200 miles away in New York. Informed speculation suggests they may be considering unloading their holdings in the Kingdom to concentrate on more profitable regions. The timber industry is on the decline in the northeastern US.

The time is ripe for our government to purchase large tracts at bargain prices before they are subdivided. Vermont's Governor Kunin cites a price of $250 per acre for land in the Northeast Kingdom. A 400,000 acre Wilderness Preserve could be bought for $100 million or less. What do we pay for one Air Force jet?

The most valid concern is the fear of park-related development in the area. That need not happen if the Park is managed as a biological reserve and wilderness recovery area. By emphasizing the biocentric ethic, the Park will not attract the Winnebago mentality, and probably won't attract huge numbers of people. The increase in visitors to the region could be handled by some of the towns on the periphery of the Park: St. Johnsbury, Lyndonville, Newport, and Island Pond, Vermont, and Lancaster and Colebrook, NH. Established towns would receive an economic boost, but no new tourist traps would be built.

The fear of loss of employment is also a valid concern, but actually our proposal will create jobs. Wilderness recovery is labor intensive. Loggers will have the opportunity to use their knowledge of the woods for healing. Some ex-loggers will get jobs as guides.

I would like to see the immediate creation of a summer intern program for high school and college age kids with an interest in wilderness recovery. They could develop a wilderness recovery inventory while cavorting in lovely wild country.

One critic called George and me "presumptuous" for assuming that this proposal would result in the reestablishment of native species. It was far more presumptuous to have driven them off in the first place, and it is presumptuous to doubt the regenerative power of Mother Earth and her children.

Jamie Sayen, writer and northern NH environmentalist, is the PAW coordinator.

Wuerthner Replies to Sayen

by George Wuerthner

Editor's note: The following notes from George Wuerthner serve specifically as an addendum to his Northeast Kingdom article in our last issue and to Jamie's article in this issue. They also serve generally as part of our growing discussion on wilderness in the East, and as part of the ongoing debate over the merits of National Park status for wild lands.

In Vermont, one political fact strengthening the possibility that a new preserve might be able to be strictly protected from development is that the state has one of the strictest environmental laws in the United States, ACT 250. ACT 250 gives the state the power to review every proposed major development in the state and assess its impact on wildlife, water quality, air quality, schools, traffic, land values, and other aspects of the natural and social environments. If it is thought that a development would have significant impact, the state has the right to deny a permit or propose mitigating actions. ACT 250 is a major step toward protecting the kind of environment people want, as opposed to accepting what land developers deliver.

Of course, ACT 250 does have loopholes. One weakness of 250 is that Vermont has no state-wide planning to determine how developed the state should be in ten years. This lack is now being discussed and a state-wide plan may be developed in coming years.

Interest in the Northeast Kingdom Park proposal is growing, partly because some people in Vermont realize that a Park could bring in tourist money. Indeed, economically a park would benefit the region. It would eliminate few existing jobs since most of the land is used for logging and even the amount of logging is minimal. Currently in the Northeast Kingdom there is a window of opportunity for major land acquisition and wilderness recovery because land prices are low — about $250 an acre — and major parcels are in the hands of only a few landowners, so purchase by the government would be relatively easy. However, land prices in New England are rising rapidly, particularly in New Hampshire and southern Vermont, and within ten years the land boom will probably hit the Northeast Kingdom. Then the large timber companies may sell their lands in small parcels for subdivisions, as is already happening in New York's Adirondacks, southern Maine, and other areas where timber companies have land in places desired for recreational houses. If the move to buy this land does not occur soon, it may be impossible in 20 years, as land prices will be too high, the land will be checkerboarded into small parcels preventing comprehensive land planning, and habitat will be fragmented.

The establishment of a Northeast Kingdom National Park would have undesirable side effects, but this may be an unavoidable cost of protection. It would be less destructive for condos and summer houses to be built around the fringes than for them to be built throughout the region.

The Northeast Kingdom is not the only area in the Northeast presenting an excellent opportunity for wilderness restoration. It is also realistic to promote creation of a new National Forest, and subsequently a new Wilderness Area, in Maine. Most of northern Maine is owned by timber companies who would probably consider selling.

In many ways the East is in a better position for wilderness recovery than the West. Local economies in the East are less dependent upon natural resource development, and many of its rural areas are actually less developed than places in the West. For example, in the Adirondacks one can climb a peak and see nothing but forests stretching into the distance. Logging does occur there, but not on a scale approaching that of many forests in the West. The era of pillage was a century ago in the East, and the land has partly healed. There are generally no livestock in eastern National Forests. Because of this, it might be easier to reintroduce Gray Wolves and Mountain Lions in the Adirondacks than in the West, though hunters would oppose reintroductions, saying that wolves and lions eat deer.

Compromise in the White Mountains

by Al Pine

The settlement of New Hampshire's White Mountain National Forest (WMNF) forest plan appeal on October 6 dramatizes anew the wisdom of the Earth First! ethic: "No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth!"

Environmentalists had stopped 55 timber sales in the WMNF, and they thought they had a winnable Supreme Court case over the issue of deficit sales, yet they let the Forest Service (FS) off with a compromise which protects 100,000 acres in six roadless areas for only the next nine years.

Environmentalists felt they had a case which, if upheld by the Supreme Court, would have stopped deficit timber sales nationwide. Yet they traded it for a nine-year stay of execution for six tracts which merit immediate Wilderness designation: Kilkenny, Wild River, Kinsman, Carr Mountain, the North Slope of the Presidentials, and the Pemigewasset Extension.

At the end of the ten-year forest plan (1996) these lands will be available for clearcuts, ATV trails, or Wilderness designation. So, we'll have to enter the appeal process again when the FS schedules more "wildlife management cuts" and other euphemisms for biocide in the next ten-year plan.

In fairness to environmentalists who appealed the plan, it must be noted that life in White Mountain National Forest would have been far worse without the appeal because the WMNF forest plan, like all other National Forest plans, is atrocious. Six backcountry areas have been saved for nine years, FS "wildlife management" practices will be monitored, and some environmentalists are preparing for a fight to achieve permanent protection for these and other roadless areas. But...

The challenge for eastern EF!ers is to transform the debate over saving wilderness remnants into a debate about preserving Big Wilderness in the WMNF and throughout New England.

THE APPEAL AND SETTLEMENT: The appeal was filed April 30, 1986, by the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) of Boston on behalf of itself, The Wilderness Society, Sierra Club, National Audubon Society, and Defenders of Wildlife. The primary challenge concerned timber harvesting and road building which would harm wildlife habitat, watershed protection and backcountry recreation in the six roadless areas. The appeal challenged below cost timber sales and the wildlife management strategy of the WMNF. The appellants received a stay which stopped 55 timber sales and road building in all roadless areas of the National Forest.

In addition to protecting the six roadless areas until 1996 from all roads and cuts except for cases of "catastrophe," the settlement calls for joint environmentalist-Forest Service review of FS wildlife management practices. In return, environmentalists dropped the appeal but reserve the right to appeal individual sales. The 55 timber sales halted by the stay can now proceed. The court test of the below cost timber sales has been abandoned.

The EF! translation of the settlement reads: Environmentalists gave up a winnable case of national significance and their right to delay the implementation of an atrocious forest plan for the several years the case would have been in court. In return, the FS gave up nothing. They merely delay for nine years their plans to "manage" these six roadless areas, and they must give lip-service to the review of wildlife management.

Environmentalists did not even force the FS to agree to guidelines to reviewing the wildlife management. Neither side knows how the monitoring will occur, but the FS intends to exclude those who strongly oppose the FS philosophy of wildlife management. Obviously, this means little consideration will be given to the reintroduction of native species driven from these mountains by Euroamerican marauders.

In the aftermath of the settlement, several things are clear: Despite the "friendly" settlement, the appellants and the Forest Service dislike and distrust each other; there is a real morale problem in the FS; and environmentalists are feuding amongst themselves. Pseudo-environmentalists like the Society for the Preservation of New Hampshire Forests sided with the Forest Service and allegedly aided the Timber Owners Association (TOA), which appealed the forest plan because it wanted more land to cut. As a result of the appeal experience, some mainstream environmentalists are coming to realize that EF!'s no compromise ethic is the only viable approach to the issue of wilderness preservation.

[Ed. note: In December, the TOA dropped its appeal.]

BELOW COST SALES: The biggest disappointment concerns the abandonment of the suit against below cost sales. As long as the appeal was in effect, 55 sales were stopped. Doug Foy, lead counsel for the CLF, said the stay was the most comprehensive yet issued. He feels the appellants could have won, but it would have taken years. He feared that if the Supreme Court decided against the environmentalists, all would have been lost, and the six roadless areas would have been opened for destruction.

The FS defense of below cost sales was and is ludicrous. First, WMNF Supervisor Mike Hathaway boasted that roads would be closed and reseeded after the completion of a sale. Then, when asked about below cost sales in the WMNF, he complained that the FS was a victim of unfair accounting practices. If we could depreciate those roads over a 20-year period, we'd show a profit, he mumbled. Foy reminded him that he had just said the roads would only be used for one or two years, and, therefore, it was not appropriate to depreciate them over a 20-year period. There are other FS refinements of this argument, but it all boils down to the same thing: more FS BS.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT: The forest plan called for the usual Forest Service "management" practices: Manage for game species like deer, rabbits and grouse; use the notorious "edge-effect" argument to justify more roads and clearcuts.

Sure, this may yield more species; but any EF!er worth her or his monkeywrench knows that these edge species are already well represented elsewhere. FS officials say they "don't know" how many of the sensitive, Threatened and Endangered species require young disturbance forests.

Do shy, sensitive, Threatened or Endangered species thrive in areas disturbed by humans? Ask Lynx, Peregrine Falcon, Pine Marten, Bald Eagle. Or ask the Spirit of Gray Wolf, Wolverine, or Cougar. They'll tell you the FS misuses statistics to justify a timber harvest of 35 million board feet on the WMNF this year. How committed is the FS to the welfare of wildlife? In the entire WMNF there is only one wildlife biologist!

To the credit of the Forest Service, its representatives have suggested that recovery of the Canada Lynx will probably require closure of some hiking trails in the higher elevations. This won't sit well with yuppie hikers, but honest environmentalists agree that there are too many trails in Lynx habitat. Formerly, Lynx frequented lower elevations, but these areas are developed now, and if any Lynx survive in New Hampshire, they do so at higher elevations.

The FS doesn't know if the Lynx survives in NH, yet they planned to destroy some of the vanishing Lynx habitat. If it is still there, the Lynx is in trouble in NH, but is not on the federal Endangered Species list, so the Endangered Species Act can't be used to stop FS activities.

ADDITIONS TO THE WMNF: An essential ingredient for wise wildlife management is for the FS to purchase more private lands contiguous to the WMNF. Fifteen percent of lands within the Forest's purchase boundaries are still in private hands. Given New Hampshire's obscene rate of development, this means more condos unless those lands are purchased soon. The WMNF recently added 10,664 acres in five tracts. Even these small additions were almost sandbagged earlier this year by a Jesse Helms protege. Fortunately, WMNF supervisor Hathaway stood his ground, and as Granite Dome wrote in *EF!* earlier this year, he deserves our gratitude for this.

In August, WMNF funds for additions to the Forest dried up. There is $900 million in DC earmarked for land purchases for National Forests, but Raygun won't release it.

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS SPLIT IN NEW ENGLAND: Low morale in the FS has already been mentioned. There are some fine individuals working at the WMNF. They may believe they can manage a forest better than the gods, but they are decent people who love the forest. They are frustrated because they must operate under Reagan's Forest Service and under the weight of FS bureaucratic corruption.

This dissension should help the cause of wilderness lovers. But, here in New England, environmental and pseudo-environmental groups are at each other's throats. The Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) is opposed to more Wilderness in the WMNF. They fear their hut system ($34 a night at some huts) might be jeopardized. In fact the boundary of the 45,000-acre Pemigewasset Wilderness was drawn to exclude the AMC huts. As a result, the 15,000-acre northern slope of the Pemi was excluded. The AMC stood with the FS on the appeal, because they dislike Wilderness and they dislike The Wilderness Society. Because of the posture of the AMC, the FS can truthfully say that many "environmentalists" oppose more Wilderness in NH.

The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests also stood with the Forest Service. They believe in selective cutting everywhere. The SPNHF was infuriated that national groups appealed the forest plan. Apparently they don't think National Forests are national issues. Ironically, the SPNHF was founded by out-of-staters.

The SPNHF allegedly violated the agreement not to disclose the details of the negotiations by supplying confidential information to the NH Timber Owners Association. Recall that the TOA was appealing the plan because it excluded too much of the Forest from their chainsaws.

Actually, the TOA was reasonably happy with the forest plan. Their appeal was designed to help the FS force more compromises upon environmentalists. The appeal was treated by the environmental appellants as a joke, and TOA was excluded from negotiations. TOA is expected to drop their appeal. (If, by some fluke, they won their appeal, the settlement between the environmentalists and the FS would be nullified, and the 55 timber sales would be back on hold.)

The executive director of TOA was Charles Levesque. He was recently appointed program director for the Trust for New Hampshire Lands. The Trust was recently voted $20 million by the NH legislature to buy the development rights (and in some cases, to buy the land outright) to about 100,000 acres statewide. This sounds like a good idea for a politically and environmentally backward state. But, with the Trust firmly in the hands of the TOA, and with the support of the NH business community, the Trust now appears to be designed mostly to benefit timber owners, rather than to preserve lands from developers. Indeed, timber "harvesting," even clearcutting, will be allowed on Trust lands which are designed for multiple (ab)use. Thus the timber owners will be able to cut their land while receiving payments for not "developing" it.

NEW HAMPSHIRE EARTH FIRST!: NHEF!ers must monitor the "wildlife management monitors." Otherwise, our National Forest will, by default, be in the hands of the likes of the Forest Service employee who said that because man has altered the environment, "We can't depend on Nature" anymore!

NHEF! PROPOSAL FOR THE WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

*The 100,000 acres in the six roadless areas should be designated Wilderness immediately.

*The Forest Service should be mandated to manage for shy, sensitive, Threatened, and Endangered species like Canada Lynx, Pine Marten, and Bald Eagle.

*The Lincoln incinerator, just south of the Pemi Wilderness, should be closed. It is dumping ash containing dioxin on the banks of the beautiful Pemigewasset River.

*The WMNF should purchase the remaining 15% of the lands which lie within its purchase boundaries. Those boundaries should be expanded and the new lands should also be purchased by the WMNF.

*Gradually the entire WMNF should be restored to Big Wilderness. Close all roads and most hiking trails. Return the Natives: Gray Wolf, Wolverine, Cougar!

WHAT YOU CAN DO: EF!ers wanting to work for Wilderness in the WMNF should contact Daniel Mackay, POB 865, Lincoln, NH 03251 (603-745-3373).

Al Pine is rumored to be a disgruntled FS employee who took early retirement to hike with hammer and 60-penny nails in WMNF roadless areas.

Reforming the Forest Service

by Randall O'Toole

You want to reform the Forest Service? How much are the National Forests worth to you? In particular, how much is outdoor recreation worth to you? This is a critical question because the timber industry increasingly argues that, "Environmentalists complain about below-cost timber sales, but they themselves refuse to pay for forest recreation."

Actually, few environmental groups oppose recreation fees, and many believe that complaints about money-losing timber and grazing programs will be taken more seriously if the Forest Service's recreation program comes closer to paying for itself. Today, that program costs taxpayers $100 million per year, but returns less than $30 million per year. Recreation loses money because Congress forbids the Forest Service from charging fees for any recreation other than developed recreation. Later, I'll show that this is a bad law.

There is increasing evidence that recreation — particularly the forms of recreation which conflict with timber sales — is the most valuable use of the National Forests. Forest Service economists estimate that recreation is worth anywhere from 25 cents an hour, for driving on forest roads, up to $7.50 an hour, for hunting trophy animals such as Mountain Goat. On the average, says the Forest Service, people are willing to pay about 70 cents an hour for National Forest recreation — or, in Forest Service jargon, about $8.25 per *visitor day*, a visitor day being 12 hours long.

At this rate, the total annual recreation value of the National Forests is as much as the value of all other National Forest resources combined. The National Forest System receives about 250 million visitor days of use per year, worth about $2 billion. Total annual National Forest timber receipts are under $1.5 billion, while all other National Forest values, including minerals, water, and grazing, total about $500 million.

Why, then, is recreation — and scenic beauty, wildlife, clean water, and all other attributes which recreationists seek — given such a short shrift by National Forest managers? To answer this, try to imagine Forest Service officials, not as "freddies" who just want to kill trees, but as ordinary people like you or me. They want income to support their families. They probably have problems at work, and they want ways to solve these problems. They certainly have egos, and they want others to like and praise them.

Now think of the Forest Service as a *system* and ask: how can this system provide bureaucrats with income, ways to solve problems, and praise? The most obvious answer, in the Forest Service as anywhere else, is money. Income is money, more money always seems to be needed to solve problems, and the people who get the money get the praise.

Imagine you are a district ranger, and you want income, solutions to problems, and praise — that is, you want a bigger budget. You try to get money by promoting recreation on your ranger district. But immediately you find out that the law forbids you from collecting fees for 95% of the recreation which goes on in your district. The fees you do collect must be turned over to the U.S. Treasury and you never see them again.

You ask your representative in Congress for recreation money, but she is not helpful. Most of the people who recreate in your ranger district live outside her Congressional district. Since they can't vote for her, she sees little reason to support them.

You might decide to simply leave the district alone and let the recreationists enjoy it. But your supervisor is on your back: Your tiny budget and tiny staff makes *him* look bad, and even if you don't want to get ahead in the agency, he does. If you don't do something soon, perhaps he'll merge your district with another one and kick you upstairs.

Next, you try grazing. The owners of nearby ranches would just love to let their cows spend summer vacations on the National Forest. The Forest Service only collects $1.35 for each month a cow spends on the district, but the law allows you to keep half of that for your own budget. The other half, like all the recreation fees, goes to the Treasury.

After issuing a few grazing permits, your representative calls to say, "Jack Rancher is one of my best friends and his whole family votes. If you increase the grazing allotments, I'll get more money for you to spend on range management. Maybe I'll even find some money for recreation."

But then your supervisor calls. "You're doing better," he says, "but not good enough. The regional forester is going to retire soon, and I'm trying to get his job. If you don't get some more action, my forest will look slow and they'll hire someone else. So get moving."

The supervisor can mean only one thing: timber. The timber on your district is worth only $20 to $30 per thousand board feet. Sale preparation and timber roads will cost more than that. But your job is on the line, so you call your representative again.

"Money for below-cost timber sales?" she exclaims. "Why, Joe Logger is one of my best friends — and everyone working at his sawmill votes. Of course I'll get you the money. By the way, I couldn't find you any money for recreation, but I'm sure the recreationists will appreciate all the timber roads you're going to build for them."

Soon you find an unexpected bonus: You *keep* some of the receipts from the timber you sell. Part of the sales receipts is allocated to brush disposal. A larger part is for reforestation. You can even use some for wildlife habitat improvement and relocation of the trails you obliterated with the new roads. Your representative gives you $40 per thousand board feet for roads and sale preparation, but you only need to return $0.50 per thousand to the U.S. Treasury — the Forest Service can keep all the rest. Timber is even better than grazing at enhancing your budget and prestige within the agency.

Your supervisor especially likes timber because he also gets some of the reforestation money. Although the money is deducted from timber sale receipts in order to plant trees, the supervisor gets about 20% to spend on "overhead," perhaps a new computer in his office and a new Forest Service car to impress officials from the regional office.

You still have no money for recreation. But good news — your supervisor has been promoted to regional forester and he has promised to make you a forest supervisor soon. As supervisor, it will be your job to see that your district rangers know what *their* jobs are.

It's now clear why timber is so important to Forest Service officials — because timber provides over $500 million per year to the Forest Service's budget. Fighting fires to protect timber adds another $150 million to the budget, while timber-roads add well over $100 million more. By comparison, recreation is worth only about $100 million to the budget. As for wildlife, watershed, soils — the money these resources provide for the Forest Service's budget is hardly worth counting.

This shows why the law against recreation fees is such a bad law. Since forest managers receive no positive feedback from recreation, they have no reason to provide recreation. Because they do get positive feedback from timber sales — including sales which lose money — they sell timber even from areas where the recreation, wildlife, and other resources are much more valuable.

Forest Service officials are simply ordinary people responding to incentives built into the system. In order to make them to want to provide recreation — as well as beautiful scenery, wildlife habitat, and other amenities — the system must be redesigned to provide different incentives.

The best way to do this will be to let them charge recreation fees and give them the same share of those fees as they get from timber or grazing. Remember, Forest Service economists say that recreation is worth far more than timber and grazing. The $8 per visitor day estimate may be high. But even if the Forest Service could only collect an average of $3 per visitor day, recreation would produce far more income than timber and grazing in every National Forest except those in the Pacific Northwest and the deep South.

This is the essence of my proposal to reform the Forest Service: Let the Forest Service collect market value for all resources. Fund all National Forest activities from two-thirds of the net income, so managers will emphasize recreation where it is the most valuable resource. Appropriate no money to the Forest Service for any reason, so members of Congress will have no opportunity to fund below-cost timber sales, grazing, and other destructive activities. Protect old growth, Spotted Owls, and other rare plants and animals with a stronger Endangered Species Act, so resources not covered by recreation fees will be maintained.

Finally, protect all designated Wilderness Areas in trust for future generations. Income from wilderness users — along with donations from wilderness supporters — will be used to buy the rights to develop *de facto* wilderness lands. Since the wilderness trusts won't exercise those rights [i.e., wilderness groups will choose non-use — preservation — on the lands for which they have purchased the rights], this will effectively expand the Wilderness System.

This proposal will immediately save millions of acres of roadless lands on which the Forest Service is planning below-cost timber sales. In Montana alone, for example, the Forest Service is proposing to road over a million acres of roadless lands in order to sell below-cost timber sales. These lands won't be developed if the Forest Service must fund the roads from user fees.

Wildlife habitat, watersheds, and scenery will all be maintained or improved. These reforms will even help roadless areas which contain valuable timber. The Forest Service is now trying to develop these areas for timber before Congress designates them Wilderness, because timber increases Forest Service budgets and Wilderness doesn't. But under the proposed reforms, Forest Service officials will receive income whether they sell the timber or the development rights, so they will slow the rate of roadless area development.

This proposal will not lead the Forest Service to overdevelop for recreation, as the demand for developed recreation such as RV parks and roads is not great enough to require more than a small portion of the National Forests — land which is already developed. While ORV users will continue to use parts of the forests outside of wilderness, hikers and other recreationists will have the opportunity to organize together and outbid ORVers for the right to use parts of the forest undisturbed by snowmobiles or three-wheelers.

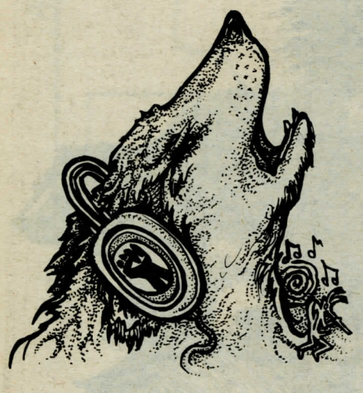
You can find out how much these proposed recreation fees will cost you by estimating the number of 12-hour periods you spend recreating in the forests and multiplying by about $3, which is the amount I estimate the average fee will be. Few people spend more than about 100 visitor days recreating in the National Forests each year. At an average of $3 per day, 100 days is about $300 per year — less than the cost of many mountain bikes, high quality backpacking tents, and maybe even less than the amount you spend on gasoline to reach the forests.

How much *is* the National Forest environment worth to you? Three hundred dollars per year or less is a small price to pay for millions more acres of wilderness and wildlife habitat, an end to timber sales in many National Forests, and significant reductions in grazing.

Your ideas for reforming the Forest Service may be different. Remember, however, that the people who run the agency respond to incentives like budgets and prestige. If your reforms don't give them an incentive to protect the environment, they'll continue to misuse it. Before preparing your proposal, read my new book, *Reforming the Forest Service*.

***Reforming the Forest Service** is available from Earth First! Books in Tucson for $18.50 postpaid. Further information is in the back section of this newspaper.*

Randall O'Toole is a forest economist and one of the most effective Forest Service critics in the US.



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The Deep Ecology Soundtrack, Part XIII
Amerindian Riffs

The dance of the rocks is so tight, their molecules vibrating so fast, that they mistakenly seem solid. They wear the illusion of permanence like antique lace, appear unchanging through the patterns. Since our tribal Pleistocene past we have sought it out, men and women of every color sculpting totems to last the ages, carving away the smoke-blackened surface of their cave-homes to expose a design highlighted by the lighter rock beneath. Rhythms of time, created as one line spiraling out, looking at a distance like concentric circles, announcing the sacred places of the American Southwest.

It's always just out of sight, carved in the pink and purple surfaces of volcanic mammoths, locked into the unhurried pace of the geologic show. You come to it the same way you finally trace it with the shaking tip of your finger — tentatively, spiraling sensuously down the narrows of ancient river canyons. Winding outward to enlightenment and Father Sky but simultaneously circling inward to Mother Earth and our own true selves! Marking, as well, the endless migrations of the two-legged storytellers.

It reminds us once again that we are all *indigenous* to this "Turtle Island." Looking back a few thousand years instead of a mere few hundred, stretching our limited concept of "home" from continent to planet, we take on the inherent responsibilities of being "native." We share in our common village roots these things: an intense sense of "place," art and lifestyle celebrating the sacred, a deep understanding of the equality of all creation and reverence for a spirit of which we are a part, yet which is greater than our individual selves. It was recorded in rocks and interpreted through song by Viking soothsayers, Druidic bards, Aboriginal dreamers, Zen monks...

This is the common ground, embracing damp soil with outstretched toes — pondering the shared elements of Hopi prophecy, Mayan divination, Tibetan prayer; and the many-tongued promise of Quetzalcoatl, the feathered serpent. His return is foretold in the Quinche calendar, the tell-tale paths of flowing blood and the cryptic toss of Guatemalan crystal. They all speak of the catastrophic cleansing which will result from our technocratic abandonment of our primal mind, our chronic left-brain dominance.

Primal mind implies an often wordless reality, all the senses heightened

continued on page 27

Deep Ecology and Magic:
Notes of a Sleight-of-hand Sorcerer

by David Abram

These are dark times for magic. Not many people in North America even believe in magic nowadays. And no one has contributed to this sad state more than the magicians themselves — those sleekly suspicious characters who perform at our gatherings and bedazzle us on TV, making things vanish and appear amidst a flurry of sequined assistants. Since the days of vaudeville, our magic has become an increasingly secular craft, forgetful of its origins in initiation, in communion and secret communication with wild nature, in trance. Today, having mislaid the original significance of the rites they perform, my fellow magicians prefer to call themselves "illusionists." For although they sense something great and mysterious in the work they do, the rational language and world-view of the time fails to provide any way to acknowledge that mystery. "Your magic," say the scientists, "is really just an illusion set up to fool our perceptions, for as everyone knows the real world is not magic." As a result, many modern magicians suffer from terrible guilt complexes for "fooling" their audiences. Many of them, like repentant sinners, have become professional debunkers — they spend much of their time straining to demonstrate that all psychics and faith healers are frauds, and that everything mysterious is really just a trick.

And yet there are a few magicians, just a handful of us, who still believe in the magic. As sleight-of-hand practitioners, we know that we are connected with an ancient tradition by the fact that we work with the sacred mysteries of perception — the same mysteries that were studied and taught by our progenitors, the tribal shamans and sorcerors. Magicians, whether witch-doctors or warlocks, have always been those individuals chosen to follow the way of the incarnate or earthly powers. As a result of their deep trust in bodily or sensual experience, these individuals became adept at activating the imagination of the senses. It was by tapping this wild, perceptual creativity in his or her clients that the tribal sorceror was able to effect numerous transformations and remarkable cures.

But the role of the sacred magician has shifted with the rise of civilization. Through the progressive domestication of tribal humanity, through the spread of institutional religion and urban logic, our species has all but lost its native ability to smell, to hear, to *see* deeply and creatively. Today's magician has the great task, then, of reawakening the deep creativity of perception. Through the use of his or her sleights and subterfuges, the magician endeavors to trick the senses free from their static holding patterns. If and when the magician is successful, we abruptly find ourselves immersed in a perceptual world far more vivid and wild than our tame definitions.

In 1980 I received a generous fellowship from the Watson foundation to support a year's research into modes of perception utilized by traditional sorcerers in the equatorial islands of Indonesia and the mountain heights of Nepal. One aspect of this grant was especially unique: I was to journey into rural Asia not as an anthropologist but rather as a magician in my own right, in hopes of gaining a more direct access to the native practitioners. By approaching them not as an academic researcher but as a magician from the West I would explore from the inside the relation between these traditional magicians and their magic. Here I will not write at length about my encounters with the shamans. It suffices to mention that my unorthodox approach was ultimately successful, that my magical skills brought me into the company of several exceedingly powerful and bizarre individuals of the sort known as "dukuns" in Indonesia or "djankris" in Nepal. Indeed it was while staying in the household of one of these djankris that I experienced a unique shift in my own sensory awareness.

On one of our first walks along the narrow cliff trails that wind from his village high in the Himalayas of eastern Nepal, my host had casually pointed out to me a certain boulder that he had "danced" on before attempting some especially difficult cures. It was a large rock thrusting out several feet beyond the cliff's edge, its surface alive with pale white and red lichens. I recognized the boulder two days later when hiking back alone to the village from the yak pastures above, and I climbed out onto the rock to sit and gaze at the snow-covered mountains across the valley. It was a sparkling blue Himalayan morning. Between gleaming peaks, two Lammergeier Vultures floated, wings outstretched, riding invisible currents. Without thinking, I took a silver coin out of my pocket and began an aimless sleight-of-hand exercise, rolling the coin over the knuckles of my right hand. One of the huge birds swerved away from the snow peaks and began gliding over the valley, heading in my direction. I stopped rolling the coin and stared. At that moment the Lammergeier halted its flight and hung in the air, motionless for a moment against the peaks, then wheeled around and headed back toward its partner in the distance. I pondered for several seconds, then on impulse began rolling the coin down my knuckles once again, letting its silver surface catch the sunlight as it turned, reflecting the rays back into the sky. Instantly the bird swung out from its path and began soaring back in a wide arc. As I watched it approach, my skin began to crawl and come alive, like a community of bees all in motion. The creature loomed larger — a sort of humming grew loud in my ears — and larger still, until it was there: an immense silhouette hovering just above my head, huge wing feathers rustling ever so slightly as they mastered the breeze. My fingers were frozen, unable to move — the coin dropped out of my hand. And then I felt myself stripped naked by an alien intelligence ten times more lucid than my own. I do not know for how long I was transfixed . . . only know that I felt the air streaming past naked knees and heard the breeze whispering in my feathers long after the Other had departed.

It was dusk before I returned to the village, stunned and wondering at this strange initiation. Elements of my own magic (the coin-rolling exercise) and the djankri's magic (the sacred boulder) had been woven together by the sunlight into an unlikely meeting, an experience suggesting that the deepest magic has its source not in humanity itself but in the meeting, the encounter of the human with what is not human. I had had intimations of this teaching many times in the past, but I had never felt its implications as clearly as I did that evening, and as I have ever since. After a dinner of potatoes dipped in salt and ground peppers, I took out my field notes and began to write some conclusions. The following is excerpted from my research notes written in the Thami Valley, Eastern Nepal:

It would be good if I began writing more often, rather than merely recording observations, for I have made progress in that task, set for me months ago by a Javanese witch, of thinking sensually — thinking, that is, with the senses, or sensing with the thoughts. It is a sort of clairvoyance, really, since we usually imagine thoughts to take place in some interior space (we say that we think thoughts "inside" or that we are being "inward" when we are thinking) while the senses are in direct contact with the exterior world. But to have one's *thoughts* in direct contact with an exterior, open space — thoughts not just processing and interpreting data from the other senses but thoughts which themselves are feeling their way through the shifting contours of an open world — how is this possible?

Perhaps it's best to begin with this fact: there is, indeed, an interior into which I commonly close myself when I think, but it is not really inside my particular body or brain. It is, rather, the "inside" which my brain shares with all other brains that think in the same fashion. This interior is a sort of cave that has been formed among the sounds of the world, an auditory hollow that continues to define its limits and to isolate itself. It is, in other words, this verbal space, the house of human language, this one region of the world which is inhabited strictly by us humans, and which we therefore feel to be an "inside" or an "interior" in relation to the "outside" world which we appear to share with so many other forms of life. We readily perceive that this planet has given birth to many species, to so many styles of awareness and ways of being, yet our everyday thoughts as humans currently inscribe themselves within a region of awareness that seems strictly our own and that presumptively shuts out all other styles of consciousness. Today we see and hear all the rest only in terms of this privileged space — all the other animals, all the trees and oceans and rocks and storms, all that lack a human tongue, including Earth itself, we view only from our insiders' space of purely human discourse. "If it cannot be put into words, then it does not exist," we say, efficiently banishing all other types of awareness. What arrogance! That to be human is a unique thing is quite certain, but surely it is also unique to be a crow, or a frog, or a Night-blooming Cereus. To be able to think with words is a neat power indeed — but that crow can actually fly!

By way of analogy: a person who is gifted with a certain type of intelligence is not thereby rendered unable to understand, empathize, and communicate with the rest of humanity. If he chooses to shut himself within his particular sensitivity and to communicate solely with those few who share his gift, then so much the worse for him and his potentially wondrous sensitivity, which will become swollen and distorted. In a like manner our collective gifts as homo "sapiens" hold a wonderful promise, but we betray that promise when we hide behind those gifts and use them as a barrier between ourselves and all else that lives. We have such potentially grand powers for empathy and communication, since there is something in us of every animal, and also something of plants and stones and seas, for we are woven of the same fabric as everything on Earth, and our textures and rhythms are those of the planet itself. . . .

Yet we have staked out and established a space that contains only what we believe is unique and privileged in ourselves. All who cannot speak our type of language are necessarily dumb, not really alive; nothing is mindful but ourselves — all else is inert, determined, and therefore fit only for our observation and manipulation. We have closed ourselves into a universe of human verbiage.

How strange this is, and sad — and how clear it is why we have come to a crisis in our particular history which is also a great crisis for the planet. How can we ever become fully human when we have forgotten how to be genuine animals?

The magicians with whom I have traded during the last nine months — like that monsoon magician of the rice paddies, or this mountain shaman whose medicineless cures are so remarkably successful — these are persons who struggle to regain those memories. That is what sets the magician's path apart from that of the mystic; while others seek to move out of their bodies, the magician fights to return to her/his body, to recover a place in this material world from which s/he feels somehow cut off and estranged. Thus the successful sorcerer is hardly a transcendent being — he is an animal, human, a creature of Earth. His magic, far from being a supernatural power, grows out of an almost proto-human attentiveness to nature itself — out of his ability to listen not only with his verbal mind, but with his animal mind, his plant mind, his soil, rock, river, and deep Earth mind. For the sorcerer knowns that the verbal space, this human gift, only makes sense for those who have learned how to enter that space, how to grow into it out of the silence; how to grow into the head from the body itself.

Yet there are so many, these days, who speak of communication with supernatural powers and other, a-physical worlds, so many who write that our destiny as conscious beings lies not with the planet but elsewhere, on other more spiritual worlds or in other dimensions. The new-age lecture halls resound with such assertions backed up with accounts of profound mystical experiences, of deeply spiritual sensations, of magic. I have an elegant intuition about all this, an intuition born from certain sensations experienced as a boy drawn to the study of conjuring back in the States, and then again, here, among the shamans of Asia. For I, too, have had some extraordinary mystical experiences in my life, some powerful bursts of oceanic awareness, but somehow these shifted states were always caught up in the material world that surrounds; they did not take me out of this world into that purely spiritual region of disembodied freedom and light about which so many of my cohorts speak. No, for the young magician those experiences always revolved around a heightened and clarified awareness of the organic world that enveloped him. Far from drawing him outside of this domain, his "spiritual" or "ecstatic" experiences never failed to make him startlingly aware of his corporeal presence, here, in the depths of a mysteriously shifting but none-the-less thoroughly physical world. So there grew in in me, steadily, a sense that the so-called spirit is really the breath of the material world; indeed that there is no spirit more spiritual than the dance of light on the water's surface or the wind rustling in the leaves. What the conjuror is ever straining to express with his vanishing coins

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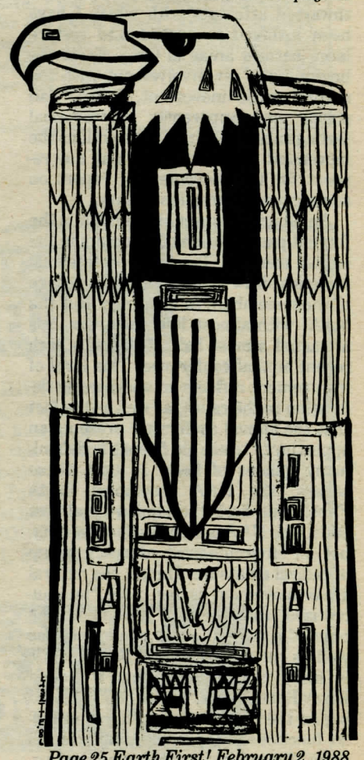

The Natural Areas Movement

by Reed Noss

In October, 1987, nearly 500 professional conservationists gathered in Peoria, Illinois, amid cornfields and tiny remnant prairies, to discuss such momentous topics as habitat fragmentation, natural community management, presettlement vegetation, exotic species problems, environmental interpretation, and international conservation. This was not a one-shot, special-topic environmental symposium, of which so many have occurred in recent years. Rather, this was the 14th annual conference of the Natural Areas Association (NAA). The NAA is a non-profit, professional society for individuals involved in the identification, evaluation, management, and protection of natural areas. Most members are employed by nature preserve, natural heritage, or similar programs in federal, state, and local government agencies; by private groups such as The Nature Conservancy; or by environmental consulting firms.

For most of these people, protecting natural areas is more than just a job. In an inspiring 1983 article in *The Natural Areas Journal*, George Fell of the Natural Land Institute described what he called "the natural areas movement." Fell was correct in using the term 'movement.' The people who work professionally for the protection of natural areas were drawn together by a common realization that traditional parks and recreation programs were not saving the most important remnants of natural diversity. The movement began in the Midwest, and remains centered there, because this is the region of the US with the smallest amount of natural area remaining. Every acre of unmodified land is precious in the Midwest, but opportunities for National Park, Wilderness, and similar big area designations are extremely rare. Only a few dozen individuals gathered for the first natural areas workshop in 1974. In 1981, Greg Iffrig, then with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, started *The Natural Areas Journal*. Greg remains editor today, and the journal has improved steadily to become a vital forum for natural area preservation and restoration strategies. Although the early focus was on small remnant natural areas, the scope of articles has expanded to include National Parks, National Forests, and entire landscapes.

I attended the 14th Annual Natural Areas Conference to evaluate the natural areas movement and the NAA from an Earth First! perspective. My perspective is undoubtedly biased, for I have been an NAA member since 1981, have attended previous NAA conferences, and have written articles for the *The Natural Areas Journal*. I have many friends within the NAA, but also former employers and others who have thwarted attempts with which I have been involved to protect and restore large natural areas in Ohio. From the beginning of my involvement with the natural areas movement, I have had strong and apparently controversial feelings about alternative directions the movement might take. With all due respect for the movement, I report on some current directions below.

An amazing aspect of the NAA is the fervent participation of members in the annual meeting. Typically, professional societies draw only a tiny percentage of their members to meetings. But the NAA, with almost 1000 members, has attracted almost half of them to each recent annual conference. This level of involvement reflects an unswerving dedication to the cause, as well as the fact that the annual conference presents an opportunity to see old friends and drink many gallons of beer. In both these senses, the NAA resembles Earth First!, but here the similarity almost ends. The NAA is a professional society, not an environmental advocacy group of radical amateurs. Hence, the natural areas movement is far more "bureaucratized" than the EF! movement. The tone of a natural areas conference, as well as the appearance of participants, is more conventional than a Round River Rendezvous! This is how it should be, for the two movements have dissimilar functions in the environmental spectrum. There is overlap between the two, however. The NAA membership roster includes several names I know from EF!, and EF! t-shirts are seen at NAA conferences. I guess that at least 10% of NAA members are *Earth First!* subscribers.

Besides dedication to the cause, a strong point of the NAA is the rich expertise and experience of its members. Most members are professionals who have spent many years in the field of natural areas identification, design, and management. NAA members have more "hands-on" experience in conservation than almost any of the big-name (academic) conservation biologists whose words are taken as gospel but who are often incredibly naive about how conservation really works. The NAA membership is far more diverse than that of other professional societies, such as the Ecological Society of America, the Wildlife Society, the American Ornithologists' Union, or the American Society of Plant Taxonomists. NAA members include scientists, site managers, interpretive naturalists, maintenance workers, and agency administrators. Inclusion of the latter category weakens the NAA in some ways. Although it might be a sign of power for the NAA to include bureaucrats, many agency administrators are woefully ignorant of ecology, and are guided in their decisions more by politics than by a love and understanding of the land. The public image of what their agency does is often considered more important than what it actually does, and expanded parking lots and picnic areas are considered more important than expanded protection. Fortunately, there are many exceptions to this generality.

Yet the bureaucrat problem remains with the NAA. Agency administrators who generally have little of importance to say are given keynote address billings at NAA conferences. For example, suit-and-tie clowns from the Forest Service (FS) have presented key addresses at the last four conferences. Last year FS Chief Dale Robertson spoke, and this year Larry Henson presented the same lop-sided story. Invariably, the message from the Forest Service concerns how much they are doing to identify and protect Research Natural Areas (RNAs) in the National Forests. Yet RNAs as of 1986 numbered only 150, and most are so small that their combined acreage constitutes only 0.1% of our National Forests. No wonder the Freddies like to brag about RNAs — they offer no threat to timber-oriented forest management. Although nearly 600 new RNA proposals have emerged from the first cycle of forest plans, the acreage will remain tiny even if all are designated. Wilderness is seldom mentioned by the FS bureaucrats at NAA conferences, because they erroneously evaluate Wilderness Areas in terms of recreational need, not natural diversity.

Another key speaker at this year's conference was William Penn Mott, Director of the National Park Service. As with the FS speakers, most of Mott's talk consisted of bureaucratic bragging about how much the Park Service is doing to safeguard natural diversity. Mott's speechwriters were more knowledgeable than those of the Freddies, however; they seem to be reading the latest conservation biology literature (including some of mine). Mott discussed the need to apply landscape ecology to National Park planning, the need for buffer zones and broad habitat corridors, the need to consider external threats and edge effects, etc. But from the way Mott stumbled through his written speech, it was obvious that he is not familiar with these concepts himself. Mott's announcement that the Park Service is on the verge of creating a 50,000-acre Tallgrass Prairie National Park in Oklahoma, with an additional 20,000-acre buffer, was encouraging, but such a small acreage will not support a whole ecosystem, replete with Bison herds and Gray Wolves. Speaking of wolves, Mott declared that he recently set up a committee to educate the public about wolves in areas surrounding several National Parks. Now let's get the wolf back into those parks!

In contrast to the bureaucrats' talks, was a slide presentation by Lou Gold of Earth First! and the Oregon Natural Resources Council. Lou has taken his slide talk on the road to inform people about the threats to the Kalmiopsis area and the Siskiyou Mountains in general, countered by an EF! proposal for a Siskiyou Big Wilderness National Park. Lou's "monkeywrench of the truth" was probably the most popular talk of the conference. Although scheduled for the same time as two other talks, it filled the room and inspired much healthy emotion. Lou was asked to present it again later in the week. Amazingly, some Forest Service and BLM administrators in the audience invited Lou to give his talk to their agencies. Lou impressed the professional conservationists of the NAA because he backed a spirited advocacy presentation with scientific facts and an understanding of the ecological concepts involved in the old growth issue. This blend of ecological credibility (in contrast to political credibility) and heart-felt commitment to deep ecology is what makes Earth First! a powerful movement. Science and emotion, rationality and intuition, are fundamentally not in conflict, as Lou ably demonstrates. They are yang and yin, necessary and complementary.

In an inspiring 1983 article in *The Natural Areas Journal*, George Fell of the Natural Land Institute described what he called "the natural areas movement." Fell was correct in using the term 'movement.' The people who work professionally for the protection of natural areas were drawn together by a common realization that traditional parks and recreation programs were not saving the most important remnants of natural diversity. The movement began in the Midwest, and remains centered there, because this is the region of the US with the smallest amount of natural area remaining.

Some deficiencies I have noted in the natural areas movement for many years are its sometimes narrow provincialism (an inability to see the Big Picture, or beyond state or even county boundaries), and its "living museum" approach to conservation. In the living museum approach, natural areas are seen as scientific curiosities where the biological hobbyist or professional can exercise his/her passion for studying things. The interest is primarily aesthetic, and some might reasonably charge, elitist. The major problem that results both from provincialism and from the living museum approach is that small nature preserves are the end product. The need for large protected areas is not recognized when the focus is on homogeneous, remnant community-types or on rare plant populations (animals, particularly large ones, have received far less emphasis in the natural areas movement). But as conservation biology has amply demonstrated, small preserves isolated from each other in human-dominated landscapes cannot maintain populations of large, wide-ranging animals, lead to problems of inbreeding and genetic drift even for small species, cannot incorporate natural disturbance regimes and other ecosystem processes, and are vulnerable to external threats and edge effects. The traditional approach of setting aside pocket-handkerchief nature preserves is not saving biological diversity.

Fortunately, the perspective of natural areas professionals is changing in the direction of the Big Picture. Although many still cling to the living museum idea and refuse to recognize the problems of small preserves, the landscape ecology approach is gaining credence. Several recent articles in *The Natural Areas Journal* (as well as "letters from the president," now Glenn Juday) demonstrate that the concern of natural areas professionals is enlarging in space and in time. The most popular scientific paper sessions at the last two annual conferences were on landscape ecology and habitat fragmentation, and featured speakers such as Larry Harris, Chandler Robbins, David Wilcove, Peter White, and myself. Wilcove (staff ecologist for The Wilderness Society and researcher on edge effects) also moderated a successful panel discussion on habitat fragmentation this year. Audience participation showed that people with The Nature Conservancy and many state natural area programs are seriously considering — and sometimes implementing — strategies to enlarge preserve size and provide buffer zones and corridors. Ecological values of wilderness and large-scale restoration strategies are also increasing concerns of the NAA.

EF!ers with a professional interest in natural areas protection should consider joining the NAA. The Earth First! perspective is present there, but needs expansion. As a professional society, the NAA cannot be expected to advocate radical political action or monkeywrenching. But the expertise of NAA members could be well applied in affidavits and as expert witnesses for EF! causes. *The Natural Areas Journal*, which accompanies membership, would be a valuable source of information for environmental activists, yet it is little read outside the association. To join NAA and receive the journal, send $15 dues to: Natural Areas Association, 320 S Third St, Rockford, IL 61108. Hurry; membership dues will increase soon.

Reed Noss is a professional ecologist and an EF! contact in Florida. Research for this article was funded by the Investigative Journalism Fund of the Earth First! Foundation. Tax-deductible contributions for the Fund can be sent to the EF! Foundation.

Wilderness Recovery

by Jamie Sayen

At the Virginia Earth First! gathering in October, I spoke with John Davis about one of the most important, but often overlooked issues in the Earth First! movement: Wilderness Recovery. I asked why the Journal does not publish more articles on how-to restoration and healing projects like Bobcat's superb "Restoring Salmon Streams" in the Eostar 1986 edition. "Simple," John replied, "no one sends this sort of piece to us. We'd love to publish articles treating various facets of wilderness recovery as a regular feature of the Journal."

Wilderness recovery is an increasingly critical issue globally. Saving all remaining wild places is not nearly enough. Consider the Appalachians: By 1920, 96% of the Northeast's forests had been cut over. Thus, to talk meaningfully about big wilderness in the East, we must talk about wilderness recovery.

PAW (Preserve Appalachian Wilderness; see Beltane 87) is committed to the vision of Big Wilderness in the East. This means Gray Wolves, Cougars, Wilderness, Lynx, Caribou, Bison and Elk in their native haunts. It means Peregrine Falcons and Bald Eagles, shad and salmon, and the rebirth of the mighty American Chestnut.

Before the natives can return, there is an awesome amount of work to do. First, stop the destruction. Second, identify the most critical recovery areas. Third, devise and implement ecologically appropriate healing strategies. Replant trees or grasses on barren soils. Restore nutrients to sterile earth. Carefully dismantle damns, roads, bridges. Restore stream beds. Remove fill in natural wetlands.

Wilderness Atmosphere

by Gavia Immer

It was a perfect autumn day. Brilliant sun, but cool North Country temperatures. Ideal weather for a hike to Thoreau Falls. There we explored the series of falls, pools and natural bridges which make Thoreau Falls one of the loveliest falls in New England.

While we hopped from rock to rock, deafened by the roaring waters, it seemed time had ceased. There was little need for words, and the falls made conversation difficult.

Suddenly a violent, vacuum-creating force suuuucked away the beauty of the moment. We looked up to see a low-flying Air Force jet blast across the sky. KABOOOM! The sound drowned out the thundering falls.

You bet we felt safer knowing our boys are ready to nuke any commie bear lurking in these mountains. Sure are getting a bang for our tax buck.

It was then that we heard voices singing Bruce Cockburn's "If I had a rocket launcher, I'd make somebody pay."

We started thinking about what wilderness really is. The junta which claims to rule Turtle Island says it is land inside specified — and artificial — boundary lines. Not the air, not the underground. Just the surface.

But the opinion of nature-estranged technocrats doesn't count much in the Council of All Beings. Birds know what the deformed aluminum molecules of the jet can never know: Earth's atmosphere is as integral a part of Earth as the ground itself.

Euroamerican culture died because, in the midst of abundant life, it saw only death. In Turtle Island's virgin forests, the invaders saw only logs and skins and unredeemed wilderness.

But Earth is a living organism. The lands, seas, and skies are all a part of that living being. Is our breath not a part of our body? Can life exist without the atmosphere which envelops Earth?

Denying this simple truth represents the ultimate in wilderness fragmentation. To claim that the air above a Wilderness Area is not wilderness is ecocide.

It is politically expedient to deny the unity of Earth and Air. This permits us to continue to pollute the Air and allow low-flying Air Force jets which violate both Air and Earth as much as a damn or a clearcut. It is easy to say "no motorized terrestrial vehicles in a Wilderness Area," but what of the motorized aerial vehicles? It is relatively easy to prohibit polluting technology from a Wilderness, but what of the airborne pollutants which emanate from non-wilderness regions?

It is time that ALL air pollution, acid rain, and airplane flights be banished from all roadless areas. It is time we acknowledge that wilderness and pollution are incompatible. Otherwise ... perhaps the next edition of *Ecodefense* should contain a chapter on how to build your own wilderness recovery rocket launcher.

Gavia Immer, a scientific researcher, has studied extensively in the field of post-classical physics, with emphasis on the quest for a unified field theory.

Earth First!ers decide to stay up for 2 New Age Bar-B-Que

These tasks are labor intensive. Loving people from all walks of life must abandon nature-estranged ways and turn to the greatest healing profession of all: wilderness recovery.

Many of us feel frustrated because we don't know where to begin. Articles like Bobcat's are essential to start the process. Start small, in your own yard, or in your favorite nearby ecosystem. Replant a hillside. Restore the banks of a mountain stream. Extend the boundaries of a roadless area. Anything you do which is ecologically appropriate and devoid of the hubris of self-appointed "gods," who think they can "manage" the land better than Mother Earth, will benefit us all.

Write an article about what you've done. Illustrations, photos, and maps will enhance the value of your work. Send your finished article to the *EF! Journal* so we all can learn from your trials and errors. Alternatively, send your material to PAW (see Directory). PAW is particularly interested in information pertaining to projects in the East, but welcomes information from all bioregions. PAW aims to compile such information, as well as conduct its own research, to present as a series of articles to *Earth First!* readers. (Send a contribution to the EF! Foundation for the Investigative Journalism Research Fund to help support this series.)

Jamie Sayen is a PAW coordinator.

Magic . . .

Continued from page 25

and color-changing cards is that the world of the most mysterious and mystical transformations is *this* world, right here, under our noses. And yet still I am confronted by news of another world, more eternal than this one (can it be?), an utterly transcendent, non-physical realm to which all "truly" mystical revelations give us access. From this I am forced to conclude either that my own ecstasies have nothing to do with the genuinely religious path — that they are in fact false ecstasies and unreal revelations still basely "attached" to the "physical plane" as my neighbors tell me, or else that there is some sort of mundane clarity in my own ecstatic experiences which is lacking in the experience of those who feel the need to postulate the existence of some other, wholly transcendent source.

Which brings me back to my aforementioned intuition about all our mystical encounters and revelations from elsewhere. Can it be that such experiences are, indeed, intimations of another, larger world than the one we usually inhabit with our everyday thoughts and perceptions, but that the larger world to which we thus gain access is none other than this very Earth, this very sphere within which we move, seen now, however, for the first time clearly? Is it possible that at such times we actually do break out of a limited, constricted world although that limited world is not the material landscape that surrounds us but is rather our limited and prejudiced human way of perceiving these surroundings, that stuffy house into which we lock our sensibilities by considering all other forms of life and existence to be without consciousness, inert, and determined? I wish to ask, finally, if it is possible that our ecstatic or mystical experiences grow precisely out of our receptivity to solicitations *not* from some other non-material world but from *the rest of this world*, from that part of our own sphere which our linguistic prejudices keep us from really seeing, hearing, and feeling — from, that is, the entire non-human world of life and awareness, from the sphere of whales with their incredible alien intelligence, of goats and apes and the fantastically organized insect colonies, of flowers and hurricanes and volcanoes. It is the living, breathing, conscious Earth of creatures who are being bred and "harvested" as meat in our mechanized farms, of schools of fish choking in polluted waters, of whole rainforest universes, whole intercommunicating systems of elements, insects, plants and animals that are falling apart and dying from our fear, our species-amnesia, our refusal to recognize awareness anywhere outside our own brain.

The other animals have given us much, and they have been patient with us, as have the plants, the rivers, and the land itself. Many creatures have donated their lives to our quest — many have undergone excruciating pain in our laboratories before being "sacrificed" — yet their relatives remain unaware of our purposes. The fish find it more and more difficult to swim in the stinging waters, while the passage upstream is blocked by dams; birds spin through the chemical breeze, hunting in circles for that patch of forest which had been their home. They are not alone in their dizziness, for things are worsening throughout the biosphere. Naturally, then, the mountains, the creatures, the entire non-human world is struggling to make contact with us; the plants we eat are trying to ask us what we are up to, the animals are signaling to us in our dreams or in forests, the whole Earth is rumbling and straining to let us remember that we are *of* it, that this planet is our own flesh — that the grass is our hair and the trees are our hands and the rivers our own blood — that the Earth is our real body and that it is alive. And so everywhere, now, our "interior" space of strictly human discourse begins to spring leaks as other styles of communication make themselves heard, or seen, or felt, and all over, in so many different ways, we feel intimations of a wholeness that is somehow foreign to us, and we see the traceries of another reality. It is indeed a time for magic, a magic time. But it is no supernatural thing, this magic. We are simply awakening to our own world for the first time, and hearing the myriad voices of Earth.

David Abram, in addition to being a spell-binding magician, is a philosophy teacher at SUNY - Stony Brook.

Soundtrack

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to a terrific pitch. It means being fully alive, as though forever poised on the brink of some awesome precipice, rushed back into our senses like a splash of frigid creek water or the startling grunt of a Grizzly on the trail ahead. Primal mind expands to celebrate clan and tribe, eventually encompassing that all-inclusive family of life.

This is the impetus and quality of primal music, the reverberating heartbeat of the Mother, pulsed through the drum-womb. Its strengths are a result of that connection to the "all," the unrepressed spirit painted with sound, delineated by the dramatic spaces between beats. We hear wind over mesas, allies from the "other side" called forth against sterile certainty, the passions of birth and earth and molten lava in contemporary Amerindian music.

A tempest in a small hollow bone. A living history and tumultuous future for the inheritors of shakers, drum, and flute. The spectral artifacts of the traveling Mayan exhibition benefited by the magical sound of Xochimoki's "Flower of the Ancient Ones" (POB 241, Taos, NM 87501). Jim Berholtz and Mazatl Galinda use a host of pre-Columbian instruments to entreat the "helpers" in vine-covered pyramids and the endless hollows of primeval rainforest trees.

Plains Indian flute is sparse and clean, reminiscent of Zen-influenced shakuhachi. The phrasings generally begin on a low note, flowing up and down like the sounds of a creek, ending on a sudden high note that sends each heavenward before the following breath. Each piece is highly improvisational, evolving from love songs specially written for the desired maiden, played outside her skin lodge from the safe anonymity of the nearby bushes. A wood or pipestone fetish covers the tuning hole on the top of these graceful heartwood flutes. Some fine examples include Tom Mauchahty-Ware's recording, "Indian Flute" and Kevin Locke's "Love Songs of the Lakota" (which, on side two, embroiders its notes over a tapestry of bird and brook sounds).

Of particular note are the compositions of R. Carlos Nakai, a Navajo-Ute based in Arizona. His first release on Canyon Records (4143 N 16th Phoenix 85016) is an excellent example of solo flute, while the follow-up, "Cycles," adds synthesizer in an attempt to capture the tonal and subsonic vibrations of his bioregion. It is taken from the soundtrack for the Heard Museum's multi-media show, "Our Voices, Our Land." R.C.'s recent collaboration with chicano artist Larry Yanez is called "Jackalope," a stirring amalgamation of primal reverberations and modern instruments. The flute is impressionistic and whimsical. "Jackalope" is the audio flesh of myth, and like its namesake it runs, bounding barely ahead of our glance; a wonderful and improbable expression of our universal and primal subconscious.

In our last look at Indian music we honored the lyric strengths of Floyd Westerman ("La Tierra Es Tu Madre") and A. Paul Ortega's "Two Worlds" and "Three Worlds." Paul returns with "The Blessing Ways," enriched with the sweet and powerful songs of Chichiltah Navajo, Sharon Burch. They are lyric prayers to Mother Earth, and the tribal rituals that mark her gifts and her changes. Earth rituals that struggle for breath in the thick, restrictive atmosphere of the 20th century. Available on Canyon Records, it is one of the most beautiful recordings we've ever reviewed.

Ortega and Westerman joined a host of indigenous performers for the 1985 tour, "Beyond Treaty" ($10 ppd from Mixtech Prod., POB 3243, Taos, NM 87571). Chuck and Maggie Banner brought together a powerful combination of singers, dancers and speakers as a fundraiser for the International Indian Treaty Council, a spiritual stepchild of the American Indian Movement. Beginning with the first notes of the ceremonial conch shell, it is a powerful musical walk down the "Red Road." Quoting Jose Lucero, "These brothers and sisters are the runners for the elders. We are all being guided by the spirit to be able to reawaken ourselves, to enhance ourselves, and then to grow after that. And it's only through the help of people, through the spirit, that makes these things possible." One such warrior in this effort was an elder well beyond his modest physical years, an ally of Earth First!, Bill Wahpepah. These were to become some of his last recorded talks. Bill contributes to the resistance now through the mists of transmigration, calling on us from the spirit world to continue our vital struggle. We experience Bill in new ways, like the animated souls of Geronimo and Sitting Bull. It is the unified power that pulls green shoots up through the entrapping asphalt. It is the power that strikes technology down with a consuming rust, spinning sand in a display of revolutionary circles. Motive circles that map our spiraling journey inward, as much as our urgent reaching out.

How Technology Defeats Itself Through the Rumford Effect

by R.F. Mueller

Modern society is a driverless hotrod without brakes going 90 miles an hour down a dead-end alley with a brick wall at the end.
—Dave Foreman

As one dedicated to the protection of wild nature, I couldn't agree more. But as a student of that nature, the diabolical pistons, drive shaft and wheels of Dave's colorful image have long fascinated me. I've even tried to run them in reverse looking for logical arguments to support my instinctive passion for the wild. If fact, looking back, we find the best of the arguments in support of the wild already present in the prime brainchild of the early industrial revolution, namely the then-budding science of thermodynamics.

Thermodynamics is concerned with energy metabolism, with the processes of transformation of one energy form into another, which makes the industrial monster run and at the same time fixes the nature of its bite. Our lead into the matter of energy tranformations is the work of Benjamin Thompson (Count Rumford), a loyalist physicist of revolutionary days who noticed that when cannon were bored frictional heat was produced equivalent in amount to the input of mechanical energy from the boring machine. This result, which boggled 18th century minds, illustrates the equivalence of different energy forms and may be called the "Rumford effect" (Mueller, "Energy in the Environment and the Second Law of Thermodynamics," NASA Doc. X-644-72-130, 1972). For me it's been a helpful concept in understanding the environmental impact of technology.

Those concerned about the environmental effects of energy use have long touted the role of increased efficiency in overcoming failings of the industrial machine, and in many quarters the impression was left that if efficiency could be increased enough, pollution would vanish (Mueller, Lughnasadh 87). This assumption also underlies the confidence in so-called "clean energy" sources such as solar, hydro, and wind, and explains the disregard of the use to which this energy is put once it enters distribution lines. Let's examine the notion of clean energy.

The diagram shows how energy fed into a machine or technological process is split into "useful" and waste energy. In anthropocentric terms, the efficiency is the ratio of useful to total energy input. Unfortunately, this definition has little validity in the natural world where different values hold sway.

The negative environmental impact of waste energy is obvious, as in the case of thermal pollution from power plants. But an important point usually overlooked is that once a particular technology is chosen, the forms of waste energy and pollution are utterly fixed. Thus frictional heat (thermal pollution) was one of the inescapable consequences of boring cannon (another was undoubtedly metal borings which form toxic wastes on contact with water). The forms of waste energy and pollution can of course be altered by tinkering, as with "pollution control devices." But then one must cope with waste and pollution from these secondary sources. (Witness the climatic effects of tall chimneys or the sludge disposal problems of "scrubbers.")

A further point is that the waste frictional heat from an industrial process such as cannon boring is in a sense different from the waste energy from a power plant, in as much as it has passed through a "useful" stage whereas that from the power plant has not. With cannon boring, the frictional energy itself played an indispensable role in the "use." This is a general aspect of the Rumford effect — even presumed useful objects such as bedsprings and teacups finally give up their energy as various forms of pollution when they wear out and are scrapped. Thus all technologic energy, whether it is waste from the start or whether it passes through a useful form, ends up as pollution. This is in marked contrast to natural energy forms to which organisms have adapted through the millennia.

Since all technologic energy ends up as pollution one way or another through the generalized Rumford effect and since the quality of pollution is usually unpredictable, all energy eventually passes from control, and the impact of energy use depends not on efficiency but on *total* energy use.

As a result of our lack of control over pollution emanating from any technology — except by introducing another technology — the economic market place works, at least in the long-term, to insure a variety of pollution forms of unpredictable toxicity and degradation. (Mueller, *Science*, 192, 1976).

Pollution from degraded useful as well as waste energy may be regarded as energy out of control. Alternatively we can speak of increased entropy or disorder as defined by the second law of thermodynamics. When technologic processes and machines convert energy inputs such as fuels and wind energy into useful forms — mechanical, chemical, electrical, etc. — by steps, there is a loss or waste component at each step. If one of these steps results in a manufactured product, some energy resides in the product and will be dissipated as pollution in the environment as the product wears and is scrapped. Since all technologic energy ends up as pollution one way or another through the generalized Rumford effect and since the quality of pollution is usually unpredictable, all energy eventually passes from control, and the impact of energy use depends not on efficiency but on *total* energy use.

But isn't it true that if we use energy more efficiently we'll need less of it to accomplish the same task and thus total energy use will be reduced? Yes, but the history of energy use has been one of continuous expansion so that any small increase in efficiency is readily overcome. Even if the increase in efficiency kept pace with technological expansion, the rate of pollution production would remain essentially the same and the pollution load would continue to increase. Furthermore, the increase in entropy that accompanies the expenditure of energy implies a disordering effect of enormous consequence to the regulation of industry and society.

The generalized Rumford effect presents us with a devastating world picture of technology, of a truly driverless machine. In this picture we see every technological process and artifact either bearing a legacy of realized pollution or containing potential pollution. The realized pollution is that energy expended in service or manufacturing as both waste and useful energy. The potential pollution is represented by the energy bound in manufactured or otherwise technologically-altered materials. All these energy forms result in pollution over which we have no overall control except to diminish or cease their use.

The illusory nature of the use and dissipation of energy is well illustrated by our waste disposal systems. Among public officials, sanitary landfills have been regarded as greatly preferable to open dumps. Although such landfills, in which trash is covered by earth, may contain only small amounts of highly toxic materials, they inevitably contain large masses of energy-rich materials such as plastic and paper. What was not anticipated and is still not fully grasped is that the energy available from the latter can, through chemical reaction and anaerobic decay, act to concentrate and mobilize the former. Thus gases such as methane and heated aqueous fluids can transport heavy metals, PCBs, dioxin, and other poisons into soil, air and water. All over the world, and particularly in "advanced societies," there are waste dumps, all toxic in varying degree, undergoing a ripening process in which their latent energy components represent time bombs that are even now beginning to explode. Thermodynamics precludes successful "cleanups" of these dumps because they represent enormous entropy pumps which have been working for years.

All over the world, and particularly in "advanced societies," there are waste dumps, all toxic in varying degree, undergoing a ripening process in which their latent energy components represent time bombs that are even now beginning to explode.

To those who despair that all this is completely pessimistic, I can only answer that it depends on one's point of view. For decades, establishment scientists aided and abetted our rampant technology by *selectively* applying certain scientific principles suited to coercing nature. This led to "progress" but also to a multiplicity of interlocking environmental and social crises. They ignored the "bad news" of other scientific principles such as are embodied in ecology and thermodynamics. To those of us who believe that our only salvation is a return to nature's dominion, the consequent loss of material conveniences is a small price to pay. To us, the pessimistic signals from science are messages of hope. Those who still cling to the narrow and outmoded world view of the technological optimist are about to learn the hard truth of that brick wall.

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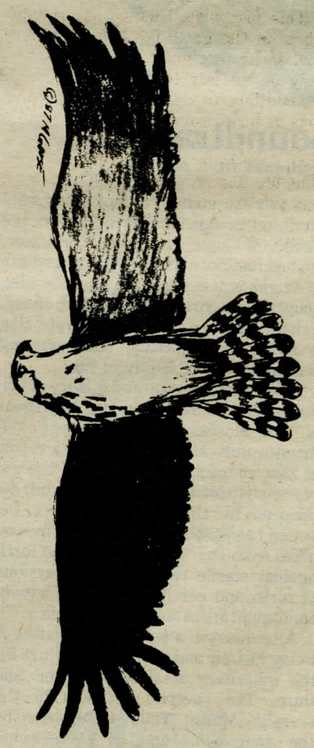

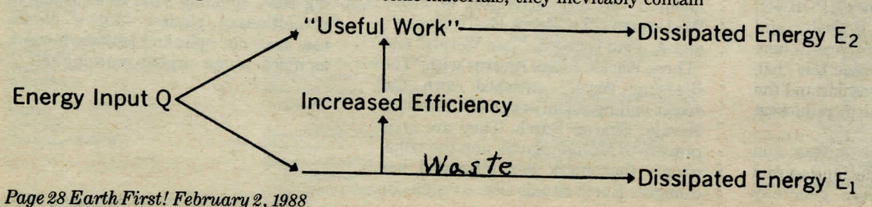

Curbing Reason, Destroying Time

by Robert Goodrich

I have often toyed with the idea, much like John Vogelin in Edward Abbey's *Fire on the Mountain*, that the occasion of my birth arrived either too early or much too late. The 20th century has never seemed a comfortable place for me. Featuring the escalating technological destruction of my planet, it gives only the sensation of disconnected anomie. I am not alone in feeling this way and it seems a natural response for Westerners inculcated with the Judeo-Christian notion of linear time to see a better existence in what is perceived to be the past. A belief that "the good old days" were a reality seems inescapable for those wearied by the seemingly unending attacks upon the integrity of Earth. We are a species amputated by intellect, and we yearn for a time when humans were, or will be again, a part of their environment.

A thought to give us hope in moments of despair, it also, unfortunately, reflects the mindset that has led to the sundering of humanity from its place on Earth. If we project ourselves backward or forward along a horizontal line, we bastardize the truth and allow ourselves to base our actions upon the most persuasive of abstractions — time. The belief that time is real begets the chimera of "progress," which has been a justification used by *Homo sapiens* for its destruction of the planet. It is extremely difficult for those imbued with the cause-and-effect mentality of Western civilization to think in a nonlinear fashion, but it is imperative for the sake of Earth that we learn to do so.

We are a culture governed by the clock. As a sort of rump of the Enlightenment, 20th century Euro-American civilization runs on automatic pilot — seeing the cognitive intellect as a means unto itself while glorifying science and statistics as the ultimate arbiters of reality. We create all kinds of perfectly square, "scientific" boxes and attempt to stuff an amorphous universe into them. This, then, becomes reality. Illogical as it may seem, reason has become an absurdity, and the favorite machine of the Enlightenment, the clock, has become the engine that drives nearly all activity. Thoreau saw it coming in America in the 1830s when in the first chapter of *Walden* he portrays the clock as the master machine in the capitalist economy. "It's (the clock's) function is decisive," notes Leo Marx in his seminal *The Machine in the Garden*, "because it links the industrial apparatus with consciousness. The laboring man becomes a machine in the sense that his life becomes more closely geared to an impersonal and seemingly autonomous system."

The key word is "system." The system, which is merely a means of definition, is perceived to be reality. The idea that the past "causes" the present, and that what we do now shapes the future, has become so much a part of the way we view life that different perceptions seem ludicrous. That there can be no present moment in such a system does not daunt us, for we simply write it off as an inconsequential inconsistency and dwell in what appears to be the past or future. We explain the universe to the satisfaction of our rational mind and live and function as if we know what constitutes the "real world." We know nothing. We are out of balance.

"Like words," wrote Alan Watts, "memories never really succeed in 'catching' reality." They are abstractions, being knowledge about things rather than knowledge of things; "the corpse of experience," as it were, "from which the life has vanished." He goes on to explain that there are two ways of understanding an experience:

The first is to compare it with the

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Time . . .

Continued from page 28

memories of other experiences, and so to name and define it. This is to interpret it in accordance with the dead and past. The second is to be aware of it as it is, as when, in the intensity of joy, we forget past and future, let the present be all, and thus do not even stop to think, "I am happy."

Both ways of understanding have their uses. But they correspond to the difference between knowing a thing by words and knowing it immediately. A menu is very useful, but it is no substitute for the dinner. . . .

The point is that when one attempts to understand the present by comparing it with memories, one cannot understand it as completely as when awareness arrives unencumbered. Watts correctly observes that we use this approach based on memories for unpleasant situations. When we are lonely or frightened we attempt to avoid the experience by dealing with it in terms of the past. This, Watts says, is merely an endeavor to keep from knowing *this* present. Memories are familiar to us and we feel comfortable with them. In other words, "we try to adapt ourselves to the mysterious present by comparing it with the (remembered) past, by naming and identifying it." This mode of thought is also applicable to our conception of the future. We project these same memories forward along the line of time. Doing so allows us to devise "plans of action" (many unfortunately confuse these with philosophies) that will, we believe, shape events to suit our own interests. All of this is predicated upon the belief that past events cause present events, and that today's present is tomorrow's past.

This is not to suggest that memories are useless, rather that they are an ineffectual means of interpreting reality. If I burn my hand by sticking it in a fire, I learn not to do the same thing again. Thus, a memory has proved itself valuable. Yet the sensation of burning flesh does not *cause* the avoidance of that sensation later on. I simply act upon what my memories infer will happen. Life (the universe) is not a step-by-step, linear progression.

Reasonable people might ask what any of this has to do with looking back wistfully to the good old days, and with the furtherance of a biocentric worldview. Such questions are interesting more for what they reveal about the asker than any insight the answers to them may provide. In fact, that questions such as these are asked augurs the very answers they seek. Only humans attempt to rationalize life. Only humans utilize abstractions to identify reality, and seek to make linear connections between these abstractions. By attempting to unite various viewpoints into a rational system — the aim of these questions — we confuse abstractions with reality, even as we do when we perceive life as an historical process.

This reliance upon cognitive rationalism is unique to the human species, and it helps explain the arrogance which has become the hallmark of human attitudes toward Earth. The capacity of the human mind for reason and its unique ability to consider itself (ego) independent of Earth and even its own physical body, has led humanity to the misconception that *Homo sapiens* is preeminent on the planet.

The evils perpetrated against Earth by humanity are myriad and well documented. And while it is easy to condemn clearcutting, toxic waste dumping, and the resumption of the Mountain Lion slaughter in California, we must be careful not to view these as simply matters of good versus evil, right versus wrong. We must carefully reconsider our fundamental attitudes toward Earth and life itself, even as we strive to protect them from annihilation. A recent event illustrates the point.

While reading the newspaper, I was saddened to discover that the California Condor is now extinct. Of course, there are still a few avian organisms in the Los Angeles and San Diego zoos, but these, despite what their captors believe, are not condors. Rather, they are physical relicts of an expression of life known to humans as condor. Just as we have created the abstraction of time, we have also created the abstraction of condor. Because we are able to define, describe, and name the condor, we think that we know what it is. We fail to recognize that words are merely conventions used to represent real things, and it is through the use of words that humans attempt to define themselves. To define is to isolate, and thus we have separated ourselves from the interaction and flow of life upon the planet. The conflict between nature and humanity rests in this dichotomy. Science and mathematics, being the ultimate expressions of human reason, so carefully study every regular and observable aspect of the universe that we believe they provide explanations. In actuality, they "explain" only measurable things.

The condor is not merely a bird; it is every aspect, tangible and intangible, that makes up "condorness" — flying, preening, hunting, breeding, nesting, breathing, the sun, wind, carrion, trees, habitat . . . living! When one captures the large bird, one has only a tiny part of what comprises condor. Given the numerous elements of condorness which no longer exist, it must be admitted that they have been extinct for years. By incarcerating the physical vestige of condor in a zoo, humans deny it even a small opportunity for dignity — to die unfettered and free. We have created our own truncated impression of condor and attempt, through confinement, to save it.

By placing the condor on a linear path of existence, we make it an entity with a past and a future, and therefore seemingly preservable. It has become an expression of our rational mind. Thus, zoos can be seen as tangible testimony to humanity's penchant for confusing static abstractions with reality. We like zoos because they seem to provide evidence that our static, rational conception of life is accurate; that Earth can be represented if it is segmented into species, flora, fauna, etc. We look at little slices of "wilderness" and feel proud that we have saved something of nature for posterity. Moreover, we feel more secure because we have gained control, ostensibly, over that which we really cannot control — nature. Much like we treat schizophrenics in civilized society, we lock nature away within the thick, vulnerable walls of rationality.

Only humans would attempt to preserve a specifically delineated aspect of Earth, and only they are capable of making such distinctions. This is a dangerous situation. For just as humanity has managed to isolate itself from the natural movement of life, it also strives to isolate every aspect of Earth into compact Euclidian boxes. It has created its own abstract universe.

This brings us back to our ruminations on the good old days; in a very real sense (not an historical sense), it may be too late to save our home. If we continue to view Earth and its minions as historical entities, if we persist in living as if the past and future were real, if we do not radically alter our view that life is a progressive journey from point "a" to point "b," we are doomed to oblivion. Even those would protect Earth from other power-hungry humans must not do so from the presently predominant vantage point. If they do, they play into the hands of the very individuals with whom they are at odds, reducing dynamic life into an assemblage of static abstractions. They may buy time, so to speak, for wild places and creatures, but the outcome will remain the same. There is little difference between traditional forms of conservation and long standing forms of environmental destruction. They share the same mindset.

Goya wrote that "the dream of reason produces monsters." Our monsters are our abstractions, which maintain our homocentric worldview. Our monsters seem real, so we do not recognize them as aberrations. Moreover, most of us have allowed our mystical and spiritual minds to atrophy to the point where all we can believe are concepts arrived at through reason. Thus, when we hope for better times or attempt to save a species from extinction, we must be cognizant that we are dealing with only a portion of the truth. Life is real, the universe is real, Mother Earth is real, and unless we again become part of life's natural flow we will probably destroy them. Until we know, as the mystics know, that our sensations of life are in fact life itself, we will continue to feel isolated and divided within.

Behaviorism and Environmentalism

by Keith Storey

If the world is to survive we need to change people's *behavior.* We must decrease behaviors that are environmentally destructive and increase those that are protective. People need to have fewer children, stop wasting nonrenewable resources, stop building roads in wild areas, conserve energy, etc. It does not matter if we raise their consciousness, change their beliefs, or modify their inner states. It is their behavior that matters. For example, I don't care what a forest supervisor's consciousness state regarding roadless areas is as long as he or she doesn't allow roads in wilderness. A person may complain about the world being overpopulated but have six children.

This focus on behavior or observable events is known as behaviorism or applied behavior analysis. Many techniques of behavior therapy and behavior modification are derived from the work of BF Skinner, the most famous of the behaviorists. Do not dismiss this essay because of notions of behaviorism being mind control or of diabolical scientists trying to control everyone; keep an open mind.

Applied behavior analysis is based upon laws of human behavior which are as logical and orderly as the laws of physics or chemistry. They are simply less well understood. For instance, if a behavior is followed by a pleasant condition (a reinforcer) the behavior is more likely to occur in the future. For instance, if you comment to someone about how nice they look in a certain outfit (your verbal behavior) and they thank you (thereby reinforcing you), you are more likely to compliment them in the future.

Behaviorism is very compatible with environmentalism. Skinner's utopian novel *Walden Two* is perhaps the type of society many environmentalists would like to see. In a recent essay, Skinner has a character talk about what life is like at the behavioral Walden:

We consume only as much as we need to maintain a friendly, productive, enjoyable life. We waste nothing; everything is recycled. . . . We scarcely pollute the environment at all. . . . We do it all and still enjoy our lives. . . . the whole world must learn that secret or we are lost.

That secret is how to arrange antecedents, contingencies, and consequences so that people behave in environmentally appropriate ways. For example, with the present tax code, couples are reinforced for having children because they get generous tax breaks that increase with each additional child. A better way would be to reinforce couples for having no child or one child and punishing those having more. Cone and Hayes report that Singapore has taken successful measures to reduce their population: 1) hospital fees rise as a person has more children; 2) large families are not allowed tax breaks for children; 3) children from large families are given low priority for admission to school; 4) families with four or more children are given low priority for admission to housing projects; and 5) women receive paid maternity leaves for only the first two children. These measures have reduced the birth rate over 50% since the late 1950s. As another example, to decrease oil consumption, gas taxes could be raised, tolls increased, and road improvements prohibited. The money from the drivers could then go to public transit so that it would be cheaper and easier than driving a car, or it could be used to develop alcohol based fuels.

Unfortunately, behavioral techniques have only recently (the past 20 years) been used in applied settings. Experiments have started on a small scale and are just beginning to be applied on a larger scale. Specific behavioral research in environmental areas has included inducements for conserving energy, recycling, using public transportation, decreasing car driving; and modifying parks to decrease ecological damage. We need to conduct further research and to start system-level changes. The research must be more broadly disseminated. Presently, unless you get reinforcement from reading scholarly journals, you're unlikely to see the information.

How are we to use behavioral techniques to save the world? First, we need to emphasize changing peoples' behavior.

Second, we must define what is environmentally appropriate behavior. This is an area of disagreement even within the environmental movement. Does it require not hunting, being a vegetarian, not having a car, using only solar energy, not using wood stoves? We should debate these issues so that we know what we want.

Third, we must use behavioral principles such as reinforcement, punishment, feedback, self-management, and shaping so that people engage in environmentally appropriate ways. The biggest task is to structure society so that people benefit from living in a manner that does not destroy Earth. Skinner believes that if the world is to survive we must eliminate the three estates of government, capital, and religion. They must be replaced by a society based upon immediate and face-to-face consequences:

It would be a world in which people produced the goods they needed, not because of contingencies arranged by a business or industry but simply because they were "goods" and hence directly reinforcing. . . . It would be a world in which the population was kept at a safe level because all social and economic incentives for having children had been removed and conception was easily preventable or freely revocable. It would be a world in which the social and commercial practices that promote unnecessary consumption and pollution had been abolished. It would be a way of life that would give the species a much longer lease on the planet Earth. It could all be done without "raising consciousness." (Skinner)

SUGGESTED READINGS

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Robinson Jeffers — Pantheist Poet

by Bill Cahalan

The central beliefs of the various world-views which can be called pantheist, since they involve affirmation of the profound mystery which is the Universe, cannot be captured in prose. Poetry is perhaps a better medium for hinting at such mystery. A number of Romantic and modern poets have written from a pantheist sense of things, but for me Robinson Jeffers (1887-1962) has done so most vividly and persuasively.

He avoided the idealized and sentimental view of Nature which the Romantics usually showed. And unlike Whitman and DH Lawrence, he was able to enrich his mystic sensibility with an extensive scientific knowledge from astronomy, physics, evolutionary biology, and other fields. He breathed the mystery and music back into science's descriptions, dropping the dry rationalism and "objectivity" of science.

Jeffers was born in 1887 in Pittsburgh. After university training in literature, he studied forestry. In 1919 he and his wife Una built a stone house of local rock on the Big Sur coast near Carmel, California. The house was heated with a wood stove and fireplaces, lighted with gas lamps, and had no electricity or telephone. The family kept goats and chickens. Jeffers died in this home 44 years later.

In a 1941 speech, "The poet in democracy," he described the religious sense in his poetry, saying: "It is the feeling — I will say the certainty — that the Universe is one being, a single organism, one great life that includes all life and all things; and is so beautiful that it must be loved and reverenced; and in moments of mystical vision we identify ourselves with it."

His poetry was passionate, including violent narrative poems, but mostly shorter poems. He wrote with a sensuous style, and attempted to have a rhythmic, tidal sort of recurrence in his lines. He rejected the flowery, abstract metaphoric style of many of his contemporaries.

Jeffers' view of the human race was bitter and pessimistic in the short run; but more compassionate, although humbling, in the long run perspective of the eternal life of the Universe. Through his long career, his poetry increasingly counseled people to turn outward toward the natural world for fulfillment, relief from self-occupation, and a humbling perspective on human activity. Some lines from the poem "Signpost":

...Lean on the silent rock until you
feel its divinity
Make your veins cold, look at the silent
stars, let your eyes
Climb the great ladder out of the pit of
yourself and man
Things are so beautiful, your love will
follow your eyes;
Things are the God, you will love God,
and not in vain,
For what we love, we grow to it, we
share its nature...

His last book of poetry, titled *The Beginning and the End*, contained a powerful long poem of the same title. This excerpt hints at both his scientific knowledge and his sense of wonder:

...What is this thing called life? — But
I believe
That the earth and stars too, and the
whole glittering
universe, and rocks on the mountain
have life,
Only we do not call it so — I speak of
the life
That oxidizes fats and proteins and
carbo-
Hydrates to live on, and from that
chemical energy
Makes pleasure and pain, wonder,
love, adoration, hatred
and terror: how do these things grow
From chemical reaction?
I think they were here al-
ready. I think the rocks
And the earth and the other planets,
and the stars and
galaxies
Have their various consciousness, all
things are conscious;
But the nerves of an animal, the nerves
and brain
Bring it to focus; the nerves and brain
are like a burning-
glass...

He goes on to say that humans function as the sense organs of God's (the Universe's) body, and that our agonies and passions, and especially our experience of the beauty of the Universe and the Earth, "enrich the consciousness of the one being who is all that exists." But he also says that "all animal experience is a part of God's life."

Jeffers was rejected by many critics in his time, partially for his strong stand (especially in his poetry, as people thought politics did not belong in poetry) against US war-making and against industrial civilization's self-congratulatory arrogance. This was seen as unpatriotic and depressingly pessimistic. Yet others, including the poet William Everson, felt he was one of America's greatest poets, and that his poetry was ageless.

As we move into the "Age of Ecology," there has been a revival of Jeffers' popularity. Both a Sierra Club book about the Big Sur coast (with stirring lines from Jeffers and fine photography), and the newspaper of Friends of the Earth, have taken their title, *Not Man Apart*, from lines in a Jeffers poem:

...The greatest beauty is organic
wholeness,
the wholeness of life and things,
the divine beauty of the universe. Love
that,
not man apart from that....

Robinson Jeffers has enabled me to see and feel more vividly. May his poetry continue to be discovered, and his message move the many people who need to receive it.

Bill Cahalan lives in the Ohio River region of the Midwest, where he enjoys organic gardening and his work as a psychotherapist.

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THE OTHER WAY TO LISTEN; Byrd Baylor, illus. Peter Parnall; Charles Scribner's Sons, NY; 1978.
I'M IN CHARGE OF CELEBRATIONS; Baylor, Parnall; Scribner's; 1986.

When Byrd said, "in the summer I always sleep out of doors — all of us know that's the very best," one incredulous little girl (who may have thought that using a black walnut snag *inside* the house as a ladder to the cloud-watching ledge was going too far), whispered to her friend, "She's lying!" Her words, however, could not change the fact that her heart was rejoicing in all its original humanness and listening and believing.... As for myself (an adult who has battled, and sometimes been battered by, the industrial growth society), Baylor is evidence that it is possible to live the Arne Naess maxim of a "life simple in means and rich in goals" — a life which combines right livelihood with the savoring of complexity and the avoidance of complication.

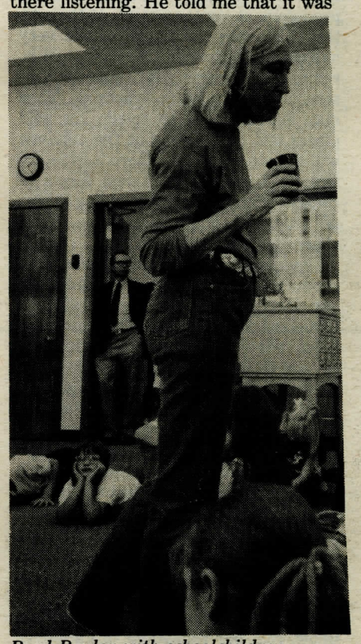
Master Coyote, Byrd Baylor has carried her radicalism — return to the roots — to mainstream America, crossing the seemingly impossible border of the elementary school to share her vision with children. A proclaimed Earth First! advocate, Byrd affirms and restores the future primitive.

In my adult Deep Ecology class I always use two of Baylor's books — *I'm In Charge of Celebrations* and *The Other Way To Listen*. *I'm In Charge* is a wonderfully *natural* introduction to ceremony. I emphasize 'natural' because I find that while there is almost a starvation for and an immense attraction to ritual and ceremony, there is also an incredible measure of reluctance and ignorance. In matters relating to ceremony, I follow Dolores LaChapelle's rule of thumb that "if it's weird or far-out — if a child can't relate to your fundamentals — if what you are doing counters rather than reinforces your natural impulse, you're on the wrong trail." *I'm In Charge* takes the reader through a year of interactions with nature, all of which trigger the "Ah hah!" of celebration.

The Other Way To Listen is a Zen-wise illumination of the heart of Deep Ecology. Specifically: 1) Baylor's communication rings with authenticity; the book is written from *Place*. 2) The book bypasses considerations of the strictly rational by an emphasis on *The* other way (not "*an* other" as a choice between formulas). 3) Communication with and participation in the non-human world is presented as "the most natural thing in the world." 4) The book is written in the first person of the oral tradition, "I used to know an old man who could walk by a cornfield and hear the corn singing." 5) Dwelling is featured as the primary process of ecological thinking: "'Do this; go get to know one thing as well as you can....' He said he started with a tree. Every morning of his life when he was young he climbed a cottonwood and sat there listening. He told me that it was worth the time." 6) Slow learning — taking the time to become informed at the very core of one's being is regarded as more essential than data collection. 7) Reality is communicated as relationship. 8) The child in the story is encouraged to physically live her questions rather than to passively ponder them. 9) The information sought is Earth Wisdom — direct knowing. 10) *The Other Way* does not contain so much as a hint of anthropocentrism: "He said, 'Well, you have to respect that tree or hill or whatever it is you're with. Take a horned toad, for example. If you think you're *better* than a horned toad you'll never hear its voice — even if you sit there in the sun forever.'" 11) Solitude is respected and encouraged. 12) Ritual, in the sense of repeated behavior combined with intention, is the process described in *The Other Way*. 13) The child in the book uses a simple chant to quiet the rational hemisphere. 14) In original human style, the ritual is performed at sunrise. 15) The developmental task of Earth bonding is described as an important experience and childhood goal. With each reading I find that a new insight emerges — another reason for celebration of humanness.

The Other Way To Listen is being reissued in a paperback edition. Meanwhile, you can find close to two dozen titles by Baylor with which to subvert yourself in the children's section of the library.

Reviewed by Julien Puzey.



Byrd Baylor with schoolchildren. Photo by Julien Puzey.

THE KINGDOM IN THE COUNTRY; James Conaway; 290pp; 1987; Houghton Mifflin Co, Two Park St, Boston, 02108; $17.95.

James Conaway's *Kingdom In The Country* is a book about the public domain in the West and the people using this domain. Therein Conaway describes some of the more remarkable personages in the lands that, he suggests, build the types of characters who build kingdoms: "... that daring, individuality and optimism melded in a national character trait. The impulse still exists in the West ... thanks largely to public lands...."

Conaway's list of characters includes the following: Bud Eppers is (in 1985, the year of Conaway's travels through the West) chairman of the Public Lands Committee of the New Mexico Woolgrowers Association and a similar committee of the NM Cattlegrowers, vice chairman of the Public Lands Council and National Cattlemen's Ass., a future candidate for the NM legislature, and a welfare rancher. Basilio is a Basque shepherd working alone in the wilds near Idaho's Sawtooth Valley. He is so frugal that, with free room and board, his major expense each year is one new pair of pants, and he has saved $80,000 in the bank. Dave Cattoor is a wrangler who, with his partner the helicopter pilot and four hired men, earns an average of $60,000 a month from the BLM for rounding up mustangs ($69 per horse) from Nevada BLM land and transporting them to sales lots. Ed Cantrell is one of the fastest shots in the West. He contracts with sheep ranchers in western Wyoming to stop rustlers on their lands. After shooting a man in 1978 and facing murder charges, he was rescued by Wyoming ranchers, who paid his $500,000 bail and hired an attorney who successfully defended him.

Among the few benign public lands users described by Conaway are Doug Peacock, Clive Kincaid, Ed Abbey, and Dave Foreman. Conaway devotes several pages to a description of the 1985 Round River Rendezvous. This description will remind Earth First!ers who attended our 1985 Rendezvous of what an enigmatic tribe ours is. What his description lacks in accuracy, it makes up for in humor.

Conaway can perhaps be faulted for portraying some of the land exploiters too favorably. However, he does reveal the harms caused by these colorful characters, and occasionally becomes downright indignant in describing abusers of the BLM and Forest Service lands. The following paragraph, inspired by his backpack trip in the Gila National Forest of New Mexico, gives an indication of this and of the pleasurable reading this book affords:

Outfitters' hoof-carved ruts lace the

THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY: INTERNATIONAL TRAVELER; Fred A. Urquhart; 1987; Nelson-Hall Publishers, 111 N Canal St, Chicago, IL 60606; $39.95; 218pp. plus color plates.

Fred Urquhart is one of the world's foremost butterfly experts, and he effectively conveys his knowledge in his fascinating book *The Monarch Butterfly*. While much of the book's detail regarding the Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) goes beyond what most novice naturalists would seek to learn, even the minutiae of Monarch molting, mating, and migrating are described in a fashion understandable to all but the most obtuse. His discussion of Monarch migration is particularly intriguing. Most Monarchs — the only "annual re-migrant" butterfly, Urquhart's evidence suggests — fly in autumn from summer homes in the Midwest and Northeast all the way to southern Mexico. But do they then bask in sunny climes? No, they proceed up into the mountains and huddle in masses in high altitude spruce forests! Verily, Nature is unpredictable! Monarchs which spend summers in the western US winter in several prime sites in California. At any of the Monarch winter roosting sites, they may be seen massed so densely together that occasionally the limbs upon which they are perched break.

This is an expensive book, but one well worth its cost for libraries and moneyed groups. In describing the diminutive Monarch Butterfly in great detail, Fred Urquhart shows that even those creatures considered by humans to be low on the so-called pyramid of life are complex beings fully capable of self-volition, with dignity apart from that accorded them by humans.

Reviewed by Australopithecus.

national forests; pack strings are the hallmark of high stands of ponderosa and Engelmann spruce. They share the trail with backpackers, an uneasy accommodation going back to the animosity between cowboy and sodbuster. The view from a saddle affects people in strange ways, bringing out fatal arrogance in some overweight men with guns strapped to their legs, their pack horses loaded with collapsible boats, electric motors, cases of beer, acres of plastic sheeting to protect themselves and their clients from the outdoors, and an occasional cast iron stove for baking biscuits and preparing Irish coffee. Some of that junk is left in the woods for unfortunate Forest Service volunteers to haul out, when the FS should hire gunslingers to go after the offenders.

Reviewed by Bushjuan.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF OFF-ROAD VEHICLES; edited by Robert Webb and Howard Wilshire, Springer-Verlag, 534pp.

Off-road vehicles are destroying our desert. After reading this book, you'll have no question about the magnitude of the problem. In example after example, scientists show that off-road vehicles (ORVs) are inherently damaging to the desert environment, thus laying to rest the claim that it's only a few "bad apple" ORV users that cause the problems. ORVs cause noise and dust pollution, soil erosion, increased runoff, irreparable damage to vegetation and archeological sites and the destruction of wildlife and wildlife habitat. Earth First!ers already know this, but this is the book to quote when trying to persuade public land managers to ban ORVs.

Most individual papers in *Environmental Effects of ORVs* deal with specific aspects of ORV damage. For instance, Robert Webb quantifies compaction due to ORVs and the resulting effect on infiltration. Earl Lathrop summarizes the effects of vehicular use on desert vegetation. Another study uses General Patton's tank maneuver areas to estimate recovery rates in the California desert. Though the topics may seem dry and narrowly focused, in fact most of the papers are well-written and include useful real-world management recommendations. The authors are entirely willing to set aside their scientists' roles and condemn off-road vehicular use.

The book also includes several papers on the rehabilitation of ORV-impacted areas. Earth First!ers interested in stabilization and revegetation techniques for disturbed deserts might find this useful, though the authors caution that recovery is slow, costly and difficult.

William Kockelman's excellent summary draws together the main points of the preceeding chapters. Kockelman points out that ORV use is an exclusionary practice. It is not compatible with "multiple use" and "sustained yield" concepts. Nor can ORVs be effectively regulated, as agencies have found.

The absurdity of providing public recreation areas for ORVs is highlighted in the book's final and fitting quote: "If, for example, the power chain saw becomes a recreational tool, must the ... government provide RCSers (recreational chain sawyers) with public trees and shrubs to cut down?"

Reviewed by Julia Fonseca.

CATTLE IN THE COLD DESERT; James A. Young and B. Abbott Sparks; Utah St. U. Press, Logan, UT.

Written by a range ecologist and a Sparks family historian, *Cattle in the Cold Desert* traces the history and changing ecology of the Sparks ranching empire of northeastern Nevada. It is the story of the "sagebrush catastrophes" caused by 100 years of overgrazing in the Great Basin:

...The sagebrush/grasslands was one of the last great vegetation resources to be suddenly, radically, and irrevocably changed by the introduction of domestic livestock ... The native vegetation lacked the resilience, depth and plasticity to cope with concentrations of large herbivores. The plant communities did not bend or adapt; they shattered.

Despite their honest scientific appraisal of the effects of grazing on the Great Basin flora, the authors are careful to describe overgrazing as a "cultural" phenomenon, rather than the result of the ranchers' cupidity and stupidity. They refer to the introduction of livestock to the Great Basin cold deserts as a "grand experiment," but never call it a failure, despite the abundant evidence they present. They point no fingers and suggest few solutions, except to hint that private ownership of the land, coupled with proper range management, might promote an ecologically sound ranch economy. However, the schizophrenic tension between admiration for the rancher-entrepreneur and dismay at the results of livestock grazing does not significantly mar the book. It is still fascinating reading.

The book begins with a riveting description of the Nevada grass fires of 1964, fires which the authors link to overgrazing. Young wonders whether the fires herald the conversion of hundreds of thousands of acres from overgrazed sagebrush steppes to rangeland dominated by annual weeds:

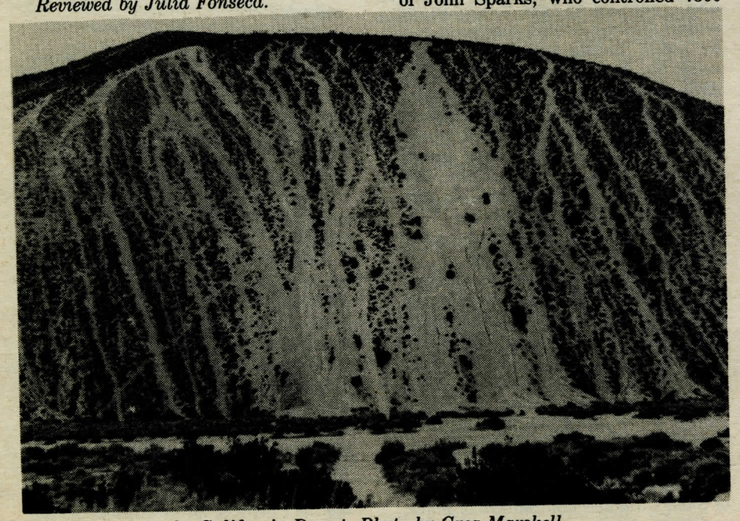
The accidental combination of forage fuel and dry lightning will return. Through application of appropriate technology, the environment can be restored to an approximation of the pristine environment with stable communities of forbs, shrubs, and grasses. If the burned sagebrush ranges are not restored, the alien weeds will inherit the sagebrush/grasslands. The way is thus paved for repeated burnings and a continuing downward spiral of degradation.

The book then describes the vegetation of the northern Great Basin under "pristine" conditions. The destruction of the sagebrush/grasslands by livestock is in part related to the nature of the plants themselves. The sagebrush/grasslands evolved without large herbivores; the area was dominated by perennial grasses, which depended upon stored carbohydrates to support spring growth. These grasses are incapable of rapid renewal following grazing by large herds. This conclusion, of course, flies in the face of the increasingly popular Savory "Holistic Range Management" theory being promoted in the West.

The rest of the book details the history of public lands exploitation by ranchers; the disruption of Native American subsistence patterns by livestock; the disastrous winter of 1889-90, after which the perennial grasslands were not able to recover; the subsequent rape of riparian areas for hay production and irrigation; and the domination of Nevada state politics by ranchers. The story focuses on the ranching empire of John Sparks, who controlled 7500 square miles through use of hired gunmen, political power, access to water, and fraudulent land claims. All necessary, according to the author-apologists, because "there was often no legal way to obtain title to the acres of rangeland necessary to sustain livestock. Even if there had been, the ranch operations probably could not have survived the tax burden that ownership of such lands would have imposed."

While you may disagree with the authors' deep and abiding sympathy for Nevada's welfare ranchers, you won't find this history dull. Earth First!ers can benefit from understanding the livestock industry's roots of power and the historical relationship of the federal government and private/state interests. Also, extensive footnotes provide references to scientific papers documenting the degradation of public rangeland in the Great Basin. Let's hear it for author Young, a former Department of Agriculture employee, for daring to tell the public the truth about Great Basin grazing — 100 years too late!

Reviewed by Tecolote.



ORV damage in the California Desert. Photo by Greg Marskell.

THE LEY HUNTER — the Magazine of Earth Mysteries, Landmark 100th issue; editor Paul Devereux; American Society of Dowsers, Danville, Vermont 05828—0024; $6.

"Earth Mysteries" covers a wide variety of topics, including the alignment of ancient sites known as "leys." From the time of the Druids, and some say earlier, the location of ritual sites was meticulously selected on the basis of "power points," the points at which the lines of cosmic electromagnetic force intersected. Ley lines are geometrically straight, easy to locate using simple dowsing methods, blanket Earth in a web-like pattern, and have become the focus of considerable investigation in recent years.

The landmark 100th issue of *The Ley Hunter* gives an historical look at the work done since Alfred Watkins, the modern discoverer of leys in 1921, generated the great interest in Earth Mysteries seen today. Published in Wales, the magazine deals with ancient alignments in Britain and elsewhere, and aspects of geomancy, folklore, prehistoric and ancient sites, strange phenomena, etc. The magical explanation for Stonehenge comes to mind, the hypothesis being that the Druids levitated the huge stones, ran them along ley lines just above the ground to the spot of greatest intersection, and then positioned them using their concentrated spiritual powers!

Alfred Watkins wrote in 1929 about legends surrounding four stones used as indicating points. "Four kings are said to be buried there, and the other legend is that when the four stones hear the sound of the bells at Old Radnor, they go down to Hindwell Pool to drink. This is similar to many other legends all over the kingdom concerning drinking stones." Stories of drinking stones, dancing stones, tingling stones, and so on abound in ancient site literature, which makes Earth Mystery work the more intriguing.

San Franciscan David Kubrin has an article in the 100th issue entitled "The War Against the Earth." As an Earth First! organizer, I was interested to read that at the beginning of the 1600s, Earth was commonly thought of as "alive," as opposed to a "lump of dead matter" after the scientific revolution. During the 1600s, woods were cut down to make ships and the beams and buttresses for mines. As wood supply diminished, coal mining increased. The author notes that prior to the 15th century, the sinking of a new mine was accompanied by religious ceremonies, and miners "fasted, prayed, and performed various rites." As Earth began to be viewed as a source of profit, debates over the environmental consequences of mining took place, as they do now. This period was a time of magic, practiced especially by people discombobulated by the sudden changes, who were trying to rebuild their social world. Some were simply opposed to the Church of England's intolerant, hierarchical, mostly male organization. Others were concerned by the assault on Earth by the forces of "modernization," particularly people who lived in or near the forests, or who held sacred rites there. Even Isaac Newton's early writing noted Earth's vital spirit. He believed that the subtle spirit "is Nature's universall agent, her secret fire, ye only ferment and principle of all vegetation," and "perhaps is ye body of light." Newton, educated during Restoration England, was affected by the "modernizers," and chose not to print many of his ideas regarding the natural order.

On a more contemporary note, the magazine has a short piece on Stonehenge which details the administrative problems surrounding the summer solstice gathering . After 11 years, the festival got out of hand. The Druids couldn't hear themselves due to the nearby rock music. The festival was banned in the courts, which led to the current squabble between festival-goers and English Heritage, the National Trust. Never a dull moment at Stonehenge, then or now!

The 100th issue has much in it, with articles ranging from "harmoonizing" oneself with the cycles of the moon, to geomythic trows. Trows are "fairies peculiar to the northern isles of Scotland, and, as the name implies, they bear a great similarity to the Norse trolls." The writer notes that "many well respected antiquarian scholars have held (and still hold) the view that certain fairy races who haunt the interstices of history are faint memories of preneolithic cultures." "Whatever the separate fairy group that folklore discusses, the common denominator is their linkage to the physical landscape and its holy centres via the energizing currents of magic. The fairy tradition is always emphatic on this point."

The wide range of topics covered by Earth Mysteries is endlessly fascinating to me, and I look forward to continuing my research in the area of ley lines; who knows what I will find? Seems like almost anything is possible. With ley hunting, and dowsing generally, the search is as much fun as the excitement of significant discovery.

Reviewed by Craig Stehr.

PAGANS FOR PEACE, POB 6531, Sta. A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1X4, Canada; 13 issues a year/$15; ed. Sam Wager.
THE NEW CATALYST, POB 99, Lillooet, B.C. VOK 1VO, Canada; 6 quarterly issues/$12.
KATUAH: Bioregional Journal of the Southern Appalachians, Box 638, Leicester, NC 28748; quarterly, $10 a year.

Being the recipients, here in the Tucson office, of dozens of fine alternative periodicals, and a greater number of mediocre ones, it is fitting that we occasionally promote a few of the better ones. Thus do we urge our readers to peruse copies of *Pagans For Peace* (P4P), *The New Catalyst*, and *Katuah*.

P4P is an unrefined but readily readable newsletter featuring news on environmental, peace, and Pagan issues, as well as fascinating essays on matters spiritual. Due to the latter category of articles, some on the redneck end of the Earth First! spectrum would find this newsletter so much refuse. However, for the many Earth First!ers who would enjoy P4P, we print parts of "Thealogy of Witchcraft," by Maphis, from the October 1987 issue:

Animism is the notion that each object, place, or other identifiable thing, feeling, emotion, or idea has a particular spirit associated with it. Each individual tree has its guardian spirit, each species of tree has another, each grove and forest another, and there are others for all trees and all forests. The level of "treeness" and "forestness" is the level where we conventionally name the spirits as Goddesses and Gods.

The spirits of the "forestness" level of abstraction are not different in kind from the spiritual beings with more limited responsibilities and interests. They are more general in their power, not tied to particular places or events, and less responsive to petition.

. . . It is important to resist the temptation to simply subsume the particular spirits into the largest scale Great Goddess and Horned God figures. While it's true that to some extent the particular Goddesses and Gods are aspects of the Great Goddess and Her Consort, they are also individuals in much the same way that you and I remain individuals with our own personalities, though we are also part of the divine. The tendency to say "All Goddesses are One Goddess,

continued on page 32

Stewardship Versus Wilderness

by Edward Abbey

HOME ECONOMICS; Wendell Berry; North Point Press, San Francisco; 1987; 192pp.; $20 hardcover.

Most of this book is so good that one hesitates to criticize any of it. In this collection of essays on such topics as farming, marriage, home defense and national defense, nature and human nature, Wendell Berry as always "stands *for* what he stands *on*" — the earth. He is in my opinion the best serious essayist now at work in the United States; and his poetry and fiction are equally deserving of respect, admiration, and most of all more readers.

Much as I like this book, however, it contains one essay which troubles me. In "Preserving Wildness," Berry attempts to defend the prevailing notion, characteristic of our homocentric culture, that "stewardship" (or "wise management") is an adequate solution to our social ills; furthermore, he argues, the tragedy of human overpopulation should be seen as a problem not of numbers but of the proper distribution of human settlement over the planet.

Mr. Berry's essay begins with an attack on the notion that the biosphere is an egalitarian system, wherein each species has as much right to continue to exist as any other. In its place he offers the old formula of "stewardship," by which the earth and everything on it is to be managed for maximum human benefit, whatever the cost to other forms of life.

This anthropocentric or homocentric view is of course the prevailing one in our society and in all human societies of the last 5000 years. In placing himself "in the middle" on this point of controversy Berry gains plenty of company — the overwhelming majority of the earth's five billion human inhabitants. But he also risks getting lost in the crowd.

The trouble with the concept of "stewardship" is that the stewards tend to think they have the God-given right to exercise domination over the entire planet. If confined to a restricted portion of the earth's land surface, say about 50%, it might be acceptable, but human vanity is never content with limits. That is why we need extensive regions of true wilderness, free of permanent human habitation and human development. Otherwise our national parks are soon reduced to the status of playgrounds and zoos and our national forests to tree farms, strip mines, and beef-industry pasturage.

Stewardship is not good enough. The US Forest Service practices stewardship. So does the Bureau of Land Management. So does most of our agricultural industry. The results are plain to see: the destruction of wildlife, pollution of land and air and water, encouragement of population increase and industrial expansion, and the gradual degradation of life, including human life, to the role of raw material for the technological culture.

Berry maintains that we have no choice but to *use* nature. A half truth: we are compelled, as creatures of evolution, to make use of enough of the natural world to sustain our own existence. We too have a right to be here. But only human greed and humanistic arrogance require that all of nature be subordinated to our desires. We retain the option of allowing at least a part of the world to go on in its own fashion without human meddling, whether called "stewardship" or "multiple use" or "scientific management." The fact that humans — or more exactly, human cultural institutions — now possess the power to control, manage, exploit or colonize every nook and cranny of the natural world does not give us the moral right, even less the obligation, to do so. On the contrary, our immense powers, combined with our belief in rationality and justice, oblige us to tolerate the pre-human and the non-human, to refrain from interfering, to keep our hands off. This is the essence of the wilderness ideal. It is indeed a moral issue, which is why we must teach ourselves to transcend the antique Hebraic superstition that God — or whatever — created the world solely for the pleasures and appetites of the human animal. *Let being be.*

One look at a mountain lion, or a great white shark, or a snail darter, or a centipede, should suffice to convince even the most obtuse that the world is infinitely more complex and mysterious than merely human desires can explain. The continued existence of these beings — animals and rocks that serve no human purpose — is of course a source of vast resentment to the majority of humankind. Not only do they compete with our instinctive urge to humanize everything, they also create annoying intellectual problems for theologians and technocrats — for all those who still believe that humans really are the center of the universe, the primary object of Creation's solicitude. Vanity, vanity, thy name is humanism. (Whether Christian or Marxist.)

Certainly we should make wise use of what we must use. But we do not need to hog the whole nation, the entire planet, and then going beyond even that lustful goal, cast covetous eyes and reach out grasping hands toward the moon and the other planets. Enough is enough. It is our greedy, expansionistic, industrializing culture, not human nature, which makes monsters of homo sapiens.

Not greed but need, they cry — there are so many of us!

How true. So long as human numbers continue to grow, there is little hope that we can save what wilderness remains in America. Even less hope that we can advance toward a true democratic society of independent freeholders, as Berry fondly imagines, as Jefferson once dreamed of. Still less hope that we could regain the relative paradise of an economy based on hunting, fishing, gathering, with space enough and time enough for all. The population of America has doubled in my lifetime, from 120 million to 240 million, plus who knows how many uncounted aliens hiding in our cities. Unless the population of our country is gradually reduced, through natural attrition, to some optimum figure like 50 million, there is no chance that our democratic ideals can ever be achieved. In the contemporary world, democracy — meaning not merely political participation but a fair share in the ownership and control of wealth for every citizen — remains a fantasy. A fading, receding dream.

It is for reasons such as these that I find Berry's position on the question of population to be inexplicable. There is a hidden premise in his argument which he is not revealing to us. If he thinks 240 million is not too many, how about 250 million? 300 million? How many do we have to accommodate on our finite land before he will agree that we have reached the point of diminishing returns?

He cannot dismiss the matter by speculating on the possibility of genocide, the deliberate extermination of "unemployables" and "underclasses." That is a false alternative. The decent, simple, and perfectly fair means for controlling population size in our country are easily available: economic incentives: A revision of the tax system so as to reward single people and childless couples and to penalize those who breed more than, say, two children per family, combined with a system of economic rewards for those who voluntarily agree to some form of reproductive sterilization. We already require a license to drive a car; how much more sensible to require a license for baby production, combined with a stiff tax on motherhood. Most people in our lunatic society are not qualified to beget and raise children anyhow: look about you. Of all American freedoms, the privilege to breed is the one most grossly abused. And the abuse is carried on at public expense, based in turn on the continuing abuse and pillage of our diminishing natural resource base.

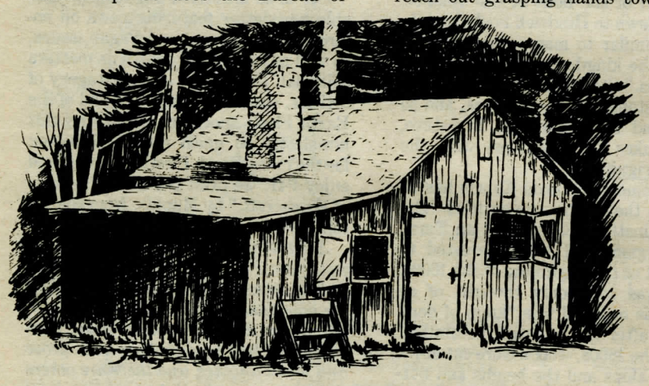
On this point, the American public, as always, is far ahead of our cultural institutions, our so-called leaders, and our deep thinkers. Most American women are content with no more than two children apiece; the real cause of our continued population increase is not ignorance but uncontrolled immigration. If immigration were curtailed, as most of our citizens would like it to be, we could soon stabilize the national population and begin a serious reform of our malformed social, economic, and political institutions. But the powerful do not want this; the manic ideology of "Growth" is based upon never-ending population increase; the conservatives love their cheap labor, the liberals love their cheap cause, and the great techno-industrial megamachine requires a never-ending supply of its essential raw material — bodies — in order to justify its expansionist logic.

And the world continues to shrink. Human life becomes ever more debased — here and everywhere. Crowding is accepted as the norm, queues become commonplace, the roar of the traffic grows louder, and the value of the individual life is steadily cheapened as the total number of human lives is steadily compounded.

That is where the philosophy, or rather the religion — it hardly deserves the name philosophy — this is where the religion of human vanity, of man as the center of all things, has brought us.

Mr. Berry asks us to respect the human species. But respect has to be earned. I respect my friends, I love the members of my family — most of them — but somehow I cannot generate much respect, love or even sympathy for the human race as a whole. This mob of five *billion* now swarming over the planet, like ants on an anthill, somehow does not inspire any emotion but one of visceral repugnance. The fact that I am a part of this plague gives me no pride.

Indeed, there are too many of us. Man has become a pest. For the dignity and decency of all, we must reduce our numbers to a sane, rational, humane and human level. Otherwise we are no better than rabbits, or fruit flies, or bacteria in a culture bouillon, and deserve a similar fate, the natural fate of any animal which outbreeds the carrying capacity of its range. As individuals we seem capable of common sense, of reason, of sympathy for others, but as a race, as a species, we have yet to prove that we can behave any better than tent caterpillars devouring the tree which supports them.



Reviews . . .

Continued from page 31

All Gods are One God" leads to monotheism and the totalitarian mindset inherent to it. The idea that the General contains the Particular is mistaken — it is simply the average tendency, the sum.

Animism is important in the theology of Witchcraft. It is the approach through which we experience the immanent — rather than as an undifferentiated tide sweeping through existence, as a number of different rivers flowing to the sea. It is an individually empowering approach to the divine, enabling us to establish mutualistic relationships with spirits, Goddesses and Gods. It is more egalitarian than a monist approach, allowing each Witch to connect to the powers with whom we need to work. . . .

Through the animist approach, we build mutual obligations to the land and its inhabitants, visible and invisible, and come to belong. Animism leads us to not cut forests, not pollute rivers. . .

The New Catalyst is one the finest bioregional periodicals on Turtle Island. It emphasizes environmental news in British Columbia, but also features reports from throughout the world, and articles on native, green, bioregional, deep ecology, social ecology, and ecofeminist movements. The following is drawn from one of their regional reports in the their fall 1987 issue:

The Alberta Wilderness Association (AWA) is engaged in a confrontation with Shell Canada over Shell's application to drill two sour gas wells in Zone I (Prime Protection lands) on Corner Mountain (Prairie Bluff), near Pincher Creek. Shell has attempted to avoid a public hearing over this application by previously "consulting with" the AWA and the Alberta Fish and Game Association. . .

When the Energy Resources Conservation Board (ERCB) insisted, at the AWA's request, on holding a hearing, Shell contrived to have it held in the middle of summer with minimum public notice. Locals were outraged and when the hearing was convened, the AWA argued in favour of postponing the hearing. The ERCB acceded to their arguments — but slated the hearing for September 16 — thereby giving groups and individuals little time to organize, but still allowing Shell to proceed with their 1987 road construction into Bighorn Sheep winter range, should the ERCB approve the application.

At issue here is the survival of a herd of 40-50 Bighorn Sheep that has already been severely stressed by other roads and drilling carried out by Shell in this area — the heart of Shell's "Waterton Gas Field" — and also by local epidemics of pneumonia that have caused major die-offs in other herds in the Front Ranges of the Rockies during the past few years. . . .

In addition to the ongoing problem of Shell Canada's domination of much of what was once wilderness in the southernmost corner of Alberta's Front Ranges, the Pincher Creek area is now beset by the Alberta government in its determination to build a dam across the last wild river in southern Alberta.

. . . The diversion tunnels for the dam are already under construction and the bids for the entire contract are due at the end of September. Albertans are encouraged to contact their MLAs, protesting this enormous waste of money at a time of supposed budgetary restraint.

Katuah is another of the best bioregional periodicals available. Typically, each issue has a particular theme, but also contains diverse environmental news, suggestions for appropriate living, and essays and poetry from or about the native people of Katuah, the Cherokee Indians. The editors' Statement Of Purpose best explains the journal:

Here in the southern-most heartland of the Appalachians, the oldest mountain range on our continent, Turtle Island, a small but growing group has begun to take on a sense of responsibility for the implications of that geographical and cultural heritage. This sense of responsibility centers on the concept of living within the natural scale and balance of universal systems and principles.

Within this circle we begin by invoking the Cherokee name 'Katuah' as the

Reviews . . .

Continued from page 31

old/new name for this area of the mountains and for its journal as well. The province is indicated by its natural boundaries: the Roanoke River Valley to the north; the foothills of the piedmont area to the east; Yona Mountain and the Georgia hills to the south; and the Tennessee River Valley to the west. . . .

We seem to have reached the fulcrum point of a "do or die" situation in terms of a quality standard of life for all living beings on this planet. As a voice for the caretakers of this sacred land, Katuah, we advocate a centered approach to the concept of decentralization. . . .

The fall issue of *Katuah* is devoted to the Black Bear, an indicator species in Katuah. Only about 2000 bears remain there, and they are threatened by housing construction, Forest Service road building, a long bear-hunting season, and poaching. Among the issue's excellent articles on *Yonah* (the Cherokee name for the Black Bear) is David Wheeler's "The Life and Death of Bear #87." The following is from that article:

"Poachers Tune In On Sleeping Bears" declared the headline in the Asheville Citizen *on January 17, 1987. Poachers had shot and killed an older female bear in her winter den site in a hollow tree within the Pisgah Bear Sanctuary below the Blue Ridge Parkway.*

The bear was number 87 of the bears who had been radio-collared for radio telemetry tracking by members of The Pisgah Bear Project, a research program being carried out by North Carolina State University scientists and students. The radio collars emit a sustained signal that is tracked by directional antennas to plot a precise location of the animal to give a picture of its range area and its daily movements.

People in the mountains were shocked that the poachers had located the helpless bear by monitoring the signals from her collar. When the poachers had found her location, they climbed her tree and shot her while she slept, and then cut down the tree to retrieve her carcass. People were particularly outraged because Bear 87 was about to give birth when she was killed.

"Glady" was the name researchers had given Bear 87. She had just turned 11 years old — a remarkable age for a bear in a region where few bears roam the woods for more than six years before they are shot.

. . . In the June previous to her shooting she had been caught, measured, and released. She was 125 pounds, 148 centimeters (58.25 inches) in length, and 79 centimeters in chest circumference.

Glady had lived the life of any wild sow-bear . . . She was one of two cubs born the winter of 1976 in the warm darkness of her mother's den, and that small space was all she knew for the first four months of her life. In the den she nursed and grew from one pound to four or five pounds by the time her mother climbed out of her den bringing her cubs with her.

*Even beneath the trees, the light of that April sun must have been intensely bright to Glady's young eyes. Her mother continued to stay near the den site for another month, moving little and gradually beginning to eat the tender young grasses, branch lettuce, and squawroot (*Conophilis americana*) coming up through the leaves. As spring progressed, Glady and her sibling followed their mother down to her spring range area, and as food became more abundant, their mother put on weight, and the cubs continued to grow and gain in strength.*

That first summer was a delight for the young cubs. They stayed close to their mother and ate buckberries under the tall trees, blackberries from the choked jungles along the open streambanks, and then browsed the open hillsides and forests for the succulent mountain blueberries. They also raided yellowjacket nests for their larvae, and ate ants and grubs from rotten logs their mother tore open with her long claws. . . .

To learn how to help prevent tragedies such as the murder of Glady, read *Katuah*.

Reviewed by Australopithecus.

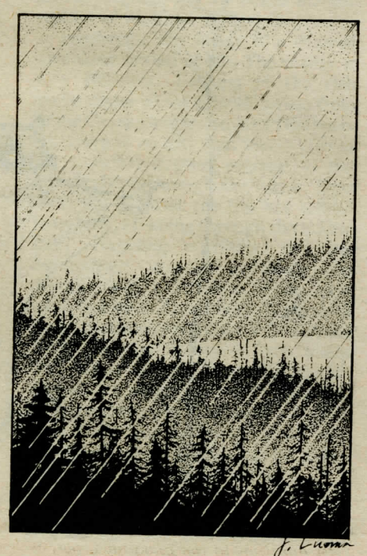
HOW NATURE WORKS; Michael J Cohen; 1987; World Peace University, Portland, OR 97215; 180pp.

Michael J. Cohen (not to be confused with the environmental historian, Michael Cohen, author of *The Pathless Way)* is one of the most important outdoor educators in the US. The National Audubon Society Expedition Institute — which Cohen founded — has become one of the most deeply ecological education programs in the country. A basic theme of Cohen's thought and of that of his students (see past articles in *Earth First!* by Michael and by such NASEI students as Rufus Cohen) is that we are microcosms of Earth — our inner nature is a reflection of wild Nature; Earth is a living organism of which each individual is only a part, yet reflects the whole (as with holograms).

Cohen's uncommonly strong awareness of our essential connectedness with Earth sets the tone for his thought-provoking book, *How Nature Works*. In it, Cohen explains how we have partially severed ourselves from Nature and how we can restore the bonds. Cohen's discussion of the historical weakening of these bonds is intriguing. He suggests that humanity evolved in the tropics, and that as humans expanded their range outside the tropics, they adapted in two major ways: Some peoples became nomadic hunter-gatherers, traveling with the seasons and the animals in order to stay warm and well fed. Contrarily, other peoples became sedentary adapters of their environments. They used, and we use, technology to artificially create tropic-like living conditions. We are the "tropicmakers." Yet, still, our bodily desires and needs, viewed from a healthier perspective than that which prevails in modern tropicmaking culture, show us our oneness with Earth. Cohen offers such a perspective with his person/planet map. This complex yet simple, amoeba-shaped map of the world and our place in it is somewhat akin to a *Weltanschauung*, or worldview, made comprehensible. Cohen maintains that those who adopt this life/consciousness map will largely transcend their tropic-making tendencies. With this map and his explanation of it, Cohen becomes one of the first writers to formulate a step by step process by which we can discover the flaws in our current worldview, and advance to a holistic relationship with Earth.

The tropics and maps theories in Cohen's latest book prove him to be an original thinker. *How Nature Works* will, in turn, encourage readers to think creatively.

Reviewed by Bushjuan



My Answer to Edward Abbey

by Wendell Berry

I don't recognize my essay, "Preserving Wildness," in Edward Abbey's description of it. Certainly, I have never written a word to suggest "that all of nature be subordinated to our desires." Nor have I ever recommended that we should "hog the whole nation, the entire planet, and then . . . the moon and the other planets." Indeed, I have spend the greater part of my life in opposing such subordination and hoggishness.

About half of Mr. Abbey's quarrel with me has to do with his misunderstanding of the word 'stewardship,' which, he says, means that "the earth and everything on it is to be managed for maximum human benefit, whatever the cost to other forms of life." He associates it with "the antique Hebraic superstition that God — or whatever — created the world solely for the pleasures and appetites of the human animal." And he claims that it is practiced by the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. There are several things wrong with this.

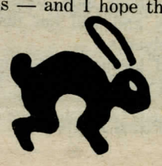
A steward is someone who takes care of property belonging to someone else. A steward, therefore, cannot manage property for his or her own benefit, maximum or otherwise. According to "the antique Hebraic superstition" to which Mr. Abbey refers, the someone else whose earthly property human stewards are to take care of is God, who made the world for His pleasure (see, for instance, Genesis 1 and Revelation 4:11), and who has retained title to the whole of it; nowhere in the Bible are humans given any part of the earth to do with as they please. Moreover, God is not represented as an absentee landlord, but as an active participant in the lives of His creatures — or, more accurately, their lives are understood as participating in His life: "The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God." (Psalm 104: 21) To be sure, Adam is given "dominion" over "every living thing" in Genesis 1:28; but this gift is strictly (and dangerously) conditional. There is nothing in the Bible to suggest that "dominion" means the right to use to excess or to misuse anything whatsoever.

I see no inconsistency between this idea of stewardship and the idea of wilderness preservation. Indeed, this idea of stewardship seems to me to *require* wilderness preservation of the same sort advocated by Mr. Abbey. To look to government bureaus for an understanding of stewardship is to look in the wrong place.

I do not believe, of course, that the Biblical ideal of stewardship is the only ideal applicable to conservation issues. But it *is* applicable, and (if taken seriously) it is adequate. It has, moreover, the value of belonging intimately to our language and cultural tradition. I would be happy to see it acknowledged by the religious organizations, which mainly ignore it.

Mr. Abbey's review would lead readers to believe that my essay opposes wilderness preservation. In fact, I have always been a friend to that cause. The essay to which Mr. Abbey objects contains a lengthy passage on the need to preserve wilderness, in support of which I quoted Mr. Abbey himself. How much of the remaining wilderness should be preserved? All of it, I would wish. I would not willingly part with any of it. On this issue I have always agreed with Mr. Abbey.

Mr. Abbey ignored what I wrote about preserving wilderness, I suppose, because I also argued in my essay that wilderness preservation is not adequate to the preservation either of wildness or of wilderness; I said that if we do not come to better ways of using parts of the world that we use, we will inevitably destroy all of it, the wilderness included. To me, this is merely obvious. In my part of the country, anyhow, we cannot have any considerable acreage of wilderness merely by preserving old growth woodland. Most of that is long gone. If we are to have wildernesses — and I hope that we will have them, large and small — we will have to grow them. We will have to learn to befriend thickets in honor of what they may become in 200 years. And this will require us to alter profoundly our understanding of farming and forestry, as arts and as economies.



But the issues of use and preservation are more closely connected even than that. Wildernesses cannot be preserved indefinitely by fencing out their would-be destroyers who, in the meantime, wreck the countryside elsewhere. It seems to me that an interest in wilderness preservation implies a need to interest oneself in the *best* ways of using the land that must be used — timber management, logging, the manufacture of wood products, farming, food processing, mining. The respect that preserves wilderness might have as one of its proper sources, and one of its surest safeguards, a respectful and skillful kindness toward land in use.

A reader who read Mr. Abbey's review without reading my book [*Home Economics*] might also conclude that I advocate overpopulation. Here, I think, I had better quote myself. On page 149, I wrote: "I would argue that, at least for us in the United States, the conclusion that 'there are too many people' is premature, not because I know that there are *not* too many people, but because I do not think we are prepared to come to such a conclusion." (That is a straightforward and reasonable statement. Mr. Abbey accuses me of arguing from "a hidden premise." I think he suspects me of being a Catholic.)

The conclusion that there are "too many people" in the US is premature, I think, because we have not dealt at all with the issue of use. I do not mean simply the issue of how much to use, but also the issue of *how* to use. If we reduced our population to 50 million and still refused to curb our technological ambitions and our greed, then we would still have "too many people."

The conclusion is premature also because we are not talking about the problem with a proper respect for human beings and human nature. "Birth control," so far, is an extremely crude industrial invasion of the human body, exactly parallel to the industrial invasions of our forests and farmlands. It has been extremely lucrative to a few at the cost of damage and diminishment to many. Birth control, divorced from sexual responsibility, is the internal equivalent of clearcutting or stripmining, and is sponsored by the same kind of mind.

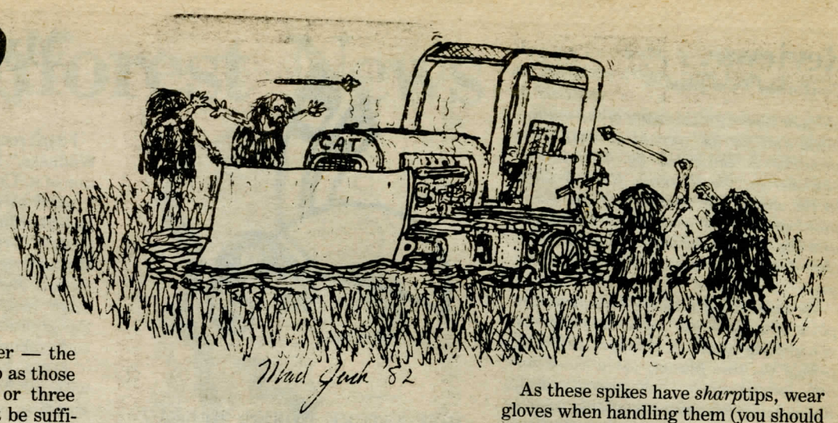
I believe that I understand Mr. Abbey's misanthropy; I think I share his exasperation and resentment; I too long to preserve the possibility of solitary quiet in places wild and unbothered. But I don't think that misanthropy is a solution, or that it can lead to a solution. *Of course* it is hard to love people who are not our friends and relatives, but imagination informs us that everybody is somebody's friend or relative. *Of course* human history is a sorry spectacle, not the least bit improved in our time, but the same history informs us that some humans have been splendid and that many have been decent. For those reasons, humans have a right to exist that is respectable. I don't believe that we can preserve ourselves or our world by belittling ourselves.

Mr. Abbey begins his review with an extremely generous compliment to me and my work. This little rejoinder has by no means carried me beyond my gratitude for that — or for his work, which is an indispensable source of delight, instruction, and comfort to me. In spite of the differences that are the subjects of this exchange, I will continue to think of myself as his ally and friend.

Wendell Berry is one of the most highly regarded writers in the US. Along with this, he shares with Ed Abbey the distinction of being one of the dwindling number of writers who eschew the computer in favor of the typewriter.

DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD is a regular feature in *Earth First!* for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the staff of *Earth First!* necessarily encourage anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.



Plastic Spikes?

Remember that scene from the film *The Graduate*, in which the corporate executive tells Dustin Hoffman where the future lies? "I have just one word for you. Plastics." Well, that may also be the new word for those looking for new ways to deter the timber industry and their lackeys in the Forest Service.

An article in the October 1987 issue of *The Barker*, a woodworkers' journal published in Vancouver, BC, describes the serious problem of contamination of pulpwood by small particles of plastic that find their way into the wood chips destined for paper-making. We have been hearing rumors for years that there is an insidious method for sabotaging the pulp-making process. Finally we have some facts.

It seems that most plastic gets into wood chips inadvertently, through worker carelessness. Items such as plastic bags and wrappers, nylon rope, cups, eating utensils, plastic bottles, pens and even hard hats have fallen onto conveyors and vats. In the course of manufacturing, the larger pieces of wood are screened out for "redigestion," which means that these plastic items keep getting recycled until they are small enough to pass through screens and enter the pulp.

These particles of plastic are insidious because they do their damage *after* the final product — the paper — has left the mill. Plastic specks in the paper cause problems primarily because the plastic melts when heated. Plastic has clogged paper-coating machines, leaving lines on expensive, coated paper. Paper-makers have also found "windows" in paper, caused where plastic has melted and stuck to rollers during manufacturing. Plastic particles in computer paper have melted and gummed up computer equipment. The problems caused by plastic particles in paper are so serious that whole batches of paper have been rejected by the purchaser when contamination has been discovered. In some cases, paper-makers have paid for damages to purchasers of paper who did not find plastic particles until it was too late to prevent damage to products or equipment.

How much plastic does it take to cause problems? I quote from the article: *It takes only ten pinhead size specks per bale of pulp to ruin the whole shipment and one foot of polypropylene rope will produce approximately one million specks. The particles ... are almost impossible to remove from the pulping process.*

This information has applications for monkeywrenchers. As more and more old growth falls to the chainsaw, increasing amounts of trees cut on National Forests, and elsewhere, will be small trees destined for wood chips. Of course, unless someone actually works in a mill, or has access to the trucks which haul the chips to a pulp mill (these distinctive-looking trucks are a common sight in some woodland areas), it probably won't be easy to contaminate the wood after it has been reduced to chips. But this leaves the charming possibility of "contaminating" the trees *before* they are cut and reduced to chips — "contaminating" them in such a way that they will be undesirable as pulp, or at least undesirable for high-grade paper pulp (some pulp is also made into cardboard boxes, particle board and the like, and plastic particles *may not* ruin these products). We don't know of anyone yet who has field experience using "plastic spikes," but it seems that it should be fairly simple.

Since polypropylene rope was singled out for notice in the article, perhaps this is as good a source of plastic "contaminant" as any. Polypropylene rope would also have the advantage of disintegrating rather rapidly — anyone who has used it extensively has noticed how easily the ends fray.

Holes could be drilled (using a bit-and-brace) in trees in an area destined for pulpwood cutting. Since small trees are usually destined for pulp — generally trees less than 8" in diameter — the holes won't have to be as deep as those for traditional spiking. Two or three inches beyond the bark might be sufficient. The hole needs to be slightly larger than your rope diameter. Take a small segment of polypropylene rope and tamp it all the way into the hole. Then fill the remainder of the hole with a caulking material, and camouflage as in any spiking operation (see **Ecodefense** for details). As in any spiking, if the trees can be "innoculated" a few years before they're scheduled to be cut, all the better, since nature will have time to cover up the work before it's time to notify the Freddies (or whoever) that the trees have been subjected to preventive maintenance.

We encourage anyone with other suggestions (or field experience) on means of introducing contaminants into the pulpwood process to write to Ned Ludd.

—Bill Haywood

Water Pipelines

Here's another method of combating overgrazing in arid regions. Stock tanks are often connected to distant wells by long (often a mile or more) lengths of plastic pipe. This pipe is often laid on the surface. In the past, I used the traditional method to deal with this pipe: I smashed it with a rock or chopped it with a hatchet. Unfortunately, PVC pipe is cheap and easy to replace. Even a dozen breaks in a line can be quickly found because of the leaking water, and repaired in a few hours at relatively low cost.

Here's an improved, field-tested method for dealing with such water lines. This method can only be used when the pipe is *not* carrying water, such as when the cattle have been moved to another range. That's the safest time, anyway.

First, drill a small (1/8") hole in the pipe. Next, inject one of the urethane foam caulking compounds (like "Polycel"), commonly sold in hardware stores. This compound comes in an aerosol can with a very small nozzle. The compound expands to several times its original volume and forms a hard, tight plug in the pipe, completely blocking the pipe. The entire operation takes about 2 minutes. One plug will do the job, but I usually do it at least twice at widely separated spots in the pipeline.

The only external evidence of the damage is the 1/8" hole plugged with the foam. Even if you knew what to look for, finding this would require an inch-by-inch inspection of the pipe. To be safe, I drill the hole in an inconspicuous location such as where the pipe is buried.

Remember the following tips:

1. Even when the pump is off, water will remain in the low-lying portions of the pipe. It may be best to go uphill and plug a dry section, but the procedure *will* work in water-filled pipes. (At least it works in a water-filled pipe up to 1.5" in diameter, the largest I've tried.)

2. The procedure *will not* work if water is flowing, because the foam is washed away before it sets. If you drill into such a pipe, don't just walk away. That little fountain coming from a drilled hole may give unnecessary clues to the rancher. Make your work look like an accident or simple vandalism by smashing that section of the pipe with rock or hammer.

3. Read the directions on the aerosol can. The can must be inverted to work — if it isn't, you'll just inject gas. Keep foam off clothing, skin, tools, etc. It's very sticky and will not dissolve in common solvents.

Fast and inconspicuous for you — slow and expensive for the Marlboro Man!

—High Plains Drifter

Advanced Road Spiking

Here are some ideas to increase the effectiveness of rebar roadspikes, as described in **Ecodefense** (pp.43-53 in first edition, 92-103 in second).

We found that the easiest way to procure raw materials is to visit the local landfill. Many landfills have unattended scrap metal recycling piles which contain scrap pieces of rebar. The sizes which work best are #3 (3/8") and #4 (1/2"). Many pieces will be bent, but these are useful for creative placements.

We have directed much energy toward stopping 3-wheeled ATC's, dirt bikes, and the 4-wheeled ("Quad-runner") ATV's. These abominations present different problems than do 4x4 trucks and jeeps. For them, ecoteurs must be more exacting in their methods of manufacture and placement.

The relatively light weight of an ATV, coupled with the pliable, low air pressure tires, makes it possible for the tire to bounce over a standard 1/2" rebar spike cut at a 45-degree angle and sticking up 3" from ground level. To increase effectiveness we use 3/8" rebar with tips cut at an angle of 60 degrees or greater. For standard emplacements we use 14" spikes, enabling us to have 4-5" above ground. As a general rule, for maximum stability, *the length of the spike underground should be at least twice the length of the part above ground.*

Before cutting rebar, notice that it has 2 longitudinal ridges running opposite each other. Start your cut on one ridge, since it helps form a sharp tip for the spike. While a hacksaw works well, also consider using metal-working tools such as a "Sawz-all" with metal blade or the special metal-cutting carbide blades for hand-held circular saws. If you use a metal grinder to sharpen tips, do not overheat the steel tip, as the metal will lose its temper, making it brittle.

Our most effective emplacement tool is a block of 1 1/2" plywood or three 1/2" plywood strips nailed together. The block should be 3-4" wide (enough to grip well) and 8-10" long. Align your spike tip and place the block over the tip and drive with your single-jack hammer. Plywood drives the spikes without dulling the tips and will not split apart. The plywood block is easily removed from the spike and will last a long time. It produces far less noise than metal emplacement tools, and is simple to replace. Plywood would also be easier to explain should one be questioned.

As these spikes have *sharp*tips, wear gloves when handling them (you should wear gloves anyway, for security reasons, and should make sure the spikes don't carry fingerprints). Consider making special containers for carrying your spikes — unprotected, they can puncture a backpack. We constructed spike "quivers" out of 3-inch diameter ABS plastic pipe. The 3" size holds 20 to 30 3/8" spikes. You'll need two 3" caps; one should be cemented on, and the other attached with a small drawcord. D-rings can be mounted at each end by using large 3" hose clamps, and a nylon luggage strap clipped on to the D-rings to form a sling. The quivers can be carried in a daypack. When ready to emplace spikes, simply pull out a quiver, sling it over your neck and shoulder, and you have 20 spikes at your (gloved) fingertips.

Another type of emplacement we find useful is the spike- or nail-board. Short scraps of rebar, left over after making spikes, are useful here. For rebar spikes, take a 2-4' length of standard 2 x 4" or 2 x 6" and stud it with spikes. Our spikes protrude 4-6" out of the board at a 45-degree angle and are usually placed 3-4" apart. The spikes can be all angled in one direction, or angled in two directions, so as to puncture tires coming from either direction. To place the spikes, drill a hole the diameter of the spike, at the desired angle, through the board. After placing the spikes in the board, you may want to nail another board across the bottom as backing, so the weight of the vehicle won't drive the spike down into the hole before the tip accomplishes its purpose. However, this may not be a hazard with the lighter ATC's and ATV's (a 4 x 4 ATV may weigh 500 lbs. sans rider).

Nail-boards, made from strips of 1" or 1 1/2"-thick plywood with numerous nails driven through at an angle, are ideal for dirt bikes, whose narrow tires may miss rebar spikes. We recommend nails of at least 20d size, since smaller ones might be bent by the tires.

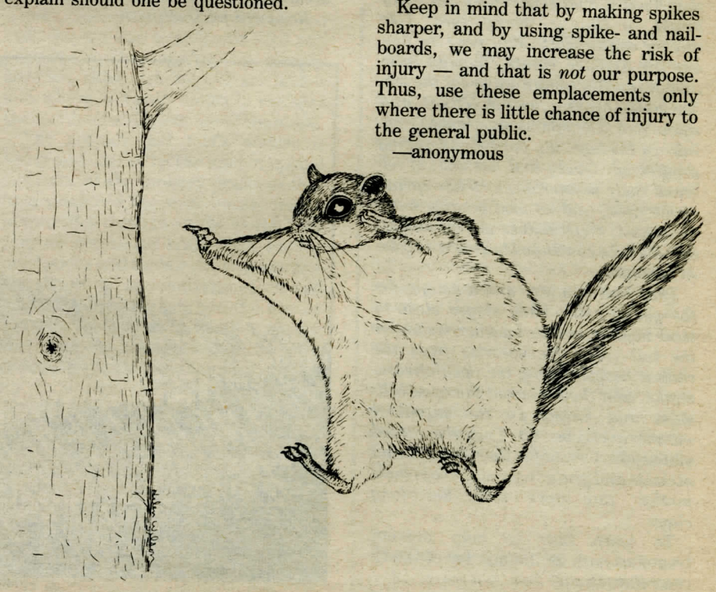
Nail- and spike-boards should be anchored to the ground. This is done by drilling a hole in each end of the board, and by driving an L-shaped piece of rebar through each hole. We use 14" "L's" for soil emplacements and 36" "L's" for sand or mud emplacements.

Bury the wood portion of your nail- or spike-board in the ground. Carry an digging tool for this. Camouflage your emplacements. Be creative. Most ATV and dirt bike yahoos won't think anything of running over a small piece of brush which conceals a spike-board.

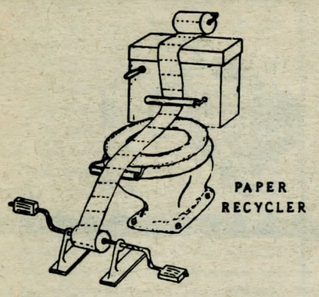
Be sure to avoid leaving fingerprints anywhere on your spike- and nail-boards, and on your tools.

Keep in mind that by making spikes sharper, and by using spike- and nail-boards, we may increase the risk of injury — and that is *not* our purpose. Thus, use these emplacements only where there is little chance of injury to the general public.

—anonymous



RECYCLING IS NOT THE ONLY ANSWER

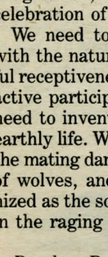


Although recycling waste can reduce our consumption by 35%, in some cases it is not appropriate.

We need NEW, FRESH OPTIONS for fuel and energy production and product demands.

As we are becoming more aware of the glaring destruction our planet is facing with our present Technological and Agricultural practices, we also find a VOID when it comes to viable, constructive alternatives being offered. ENERGY UNLIMITED is actively involved in R&D of methods and devices to offer a New, Non-Destructive Technology which gives a new hope for our future.

Our Newsletter "CAUSES" will not only point out some of the problems in today's Technology and Agriculture, but will explore the reasons behind them and offer some "cures" based on harmonious co-operation with Nature's Mechanics.



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Habitual Ritual? Or Free As the Wind?

by Penelope Rosemont

How to develop a closer relationship to the natural world is a question of urgency. Is "ritual," however, the best — or even a worthwhile — means of effecting this closeness?

Throughout history ritual has functioned to separate humans from the objects of their adoration. It is a form of authoritarian mystification linked to other elements in hierarchical and exploitative social structures. Repetitive and compulsive, ritualistic behavior was concocted by privileged priesthoods to subdue and control their followers.

There is nothing natural about ritual, which in truth belongs to the most artificial human-centered ideologies. Trees, rocks, birds and wolves do not have rituals or religion. To be closer to the natural world, we should draw on the wisdom of the wilderness. The natural world expresses itself freely, and that is what human animals need to do as well. We need to express our creative desires, our wildest imaginations, and these are best expressed in dance, play, humor, and in what such inspired dreamers as Blake and Emily Dickinson and Lautreamont regarded as poetry.

A spontaneous, wild dance in the morning sun is far more invigorating, liberating, and natural than any ritual repeated over and over so that it inevitably becomes routinized and meaningless. We need the unfettering of the imagination, not ritual; we need the celebration of Earth, not religion.

We need to develop communication with the natural world, through peaceful receptiveness to its inspirations, and active participation in its wonders. We need to invent wild, joyous festivals of earthly life. We need to learn more from the mating dances of cranes, the howling of wolves, and what John Muir recognized as the songs and gestures of trees in the raging storm.

Penelope Rosemont is a surrealist poet and painter active with Chicago EF!.

EF! Efforts from a European Perspective

by Karen Coulter

I recently attended international negotiations on the Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution Convention in Geneva, Switzerland (Nov 16-20). Before the meeting I had read the latest issue of *Earth First!* and attended a local EF! meeting, both of which focused on recent divisiveness and growing pains within the movement. I want to add another perspective to this discussion and encourage us all to return to work.

THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION: There are almost no complete natural ecosystems left in Europe — in some countries, like Belgium, none! In Belgium, even birds and frogs are so threatened that cats with good predatory skills are put to sleep. Traffic noise is everywhere. There are no more than ten square kilometers of undeveloped land in any one place. No large predators remain. Hunters usually only find rabbits to shoot. Foxes are rare; no Raccoons, no Beaver, and few deer survive. The people have little national pride, high suicide rates, and high infant mortality.

The Netherlands, adjacent to Belgium is one of many countries in a similarly grim environmental situation. Throughout Europe, acid rain is damaging forests. An overabundance of tourists in Switzerland destroys high alpine areas, with auto emissions (a major cause of acid rain) and ski area development combining to kill the trees protecting steep slopes from avalanche and erosion. Some towns beneath these slopes must hold round-the-clock citizen watches to be able to quickly evacuate in the event of avalanches, which formerly were prevented by forest cover.

In parts of Eastern Europe where more complete ecosystems and more wildlife still exist, rampaging industry and poor social conditions combine to cause extremely high levels of pollution, low levels of pollution control, and high risk to the security of wildlands. This situation is made worse by political gamesmanship between the Eastern and Western blocs which prevents the adequate exchange of control technology.

Consider Poland: Poland dumps all of its raw sewage untreated into its waterways. Most of Poland's rivers are seriously damaged by bacterial and chemical pollution; most of its ocean shore is unsafe even to *visit* because of bacterial contamination. The sources and volume of air pollutants, and locations of damaged forests and damaged historic buildings, are well defined in a book and maps by a member of the Polish Ecological Club, making EPA documentation look like gross generalizations. Poland's ecological zones and soil differences are also well understood, but only a tiny portion of the country is protected with "natural park" status or the weaker protection of "landscape area" status. Industrial development is promoted as a force to counter the economic hardship of the people (foods such as milk are often unavailable; old people die in winter from inadequate heating, etc.). Coal is used extensively for residential heating. The Polish government was part of a faction impeding progress toward nitrogen oxide emissions (NOx) reductions in the international air pollution negotiations, as it does not consider it possible to do more to control NOx than to freeze emission rates (after more increase) at 1993 levels by 1994. Yet it is said (unofficially) that Poland received air pollution control technology and sold it for profit to West Germany instead of installing it in Poland. The Polish Ecological Club is urging the government to make economic and ecological concerns complement each other, changing plans for future economic development to respect bioregional patterns such as watersheds, and manufacturing air pollution control equipment in Poland for use first in Poland. Unlike most of Western Europe, Poland still has wild populations of Brown Bears, Gray Wolves, Reindeer, and Lynx. Its large marshes attract many species of waterfowl.

LESSONS FOR NORTH AMERICA: In the US, our main work must be to change ingrained cultural habits which are probably the most wasteful in the world, excepting those of Japan. This work could be easier than the mammoth effort needed to change situations like Poland's. Again, Europe provides a useful example — this time of solutions.

In the average European hotel (even in affluent Switzerland), there is just one shower for the whole floor, which means less hot water consumption. Most hotels have no air-conditioning, even in hot countries such as Italy. Most markets are small, and much of the food is raised locally. Shoppers bring their own grocery bags.

Europe's human overpopulation certainly stresses the environment. Yet, flying into Geneva, I was surprised by how much land near such a populated and affluent city is left green — both in low lying woods and agricultural fields as well as in the Alps. In the US, urban sprawl would have destroyed this. Throughout the city were large, admittedly dull, apartment buildings, housing almost all the population and thus conserving space. So, much rural area is preserved. Villages and fields do fragment lower-elevation woods, but these are small-scale. The air is still fresh outside Geneva. Again, this is despite the wealth. Affluence should not be used as an excuse for our failure to curb environment destruction in the US.

The people in Geneva seem to enjoy a higher average standard of living than people of major US cities, but it is not so wasteful a standard. Buses (many electric) and electric trains are used between villages and between countries. The trains are more affordable and faster than their US Amtrak counterparts. However, Europe does have far too many cars and people drive too fast. Unleaded gas and catalytic converters are much less available, but governments are changing this now.

Some of the ways to prevent the US from becoming another European gridwork of human dominance can be found where the damage has already occurred. A look at Europe can contribute a broader perspective on creative actions to take. Let's not miss the last chance

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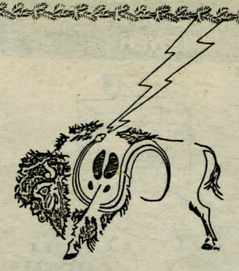
Armed with Visions



Artwork and poetry should be sent to Telluride CO 81435-1008, although poets should know that we are several years worth of poems in arrears and only the indispensibly exquisite will jump ahead of the long line.

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NIGHT WALK

The moon lights up a faint way, calling us quietly on
We leave no tracks – the needles are forgivingly thick under our feet
Sweat from the weight of a sackful of nails and hammers cools quickly on my forehead

We break and walk separate
The crack and echo of his pounding weaves with my own in a strange, uneven rhythm
Sometimes near, sometimes distant

At length I am alone and stand
in the deep shadow of a red fir – 4 foot diameter
Abies magnifica
I breath deep and drive a spike into a furrow of her bark
There is no shudder – she is thick, solid, of earth
Her limbs, 150 feet above, rock stiffly
in a wind I can hear but not feel

I embrace her and press her coarse bark into my cheek

A flash of white teeth to my left and my heart is jolted awake … and then sighs with relief
We laugh a whisper, embrace, and move on

Gilbert Skink
Ithaca

BEES IN THE BLOSSOMS

An early bee amid eucalyptus blossoms
took on more nectar than she could carry:

not that it was so heavy, but so cold. Down
fell the bee, where others had fallen,

strewn plentifully over the dirt like petals
or like seeds. A breakfasting horny toad

wears a garland of stingers inside his lip,
he doesn't seem to mind. See how the bees

buzz their wings, to get warm, how they
clean themselves, all over, unload their nectar,

buzz again, to fly, no use, until
sunlight begins to warm them and some do fly.

Dick Barnes
Claremont

Power radiates in a field
between my belly and the Earth:
Dam-breaking power.

Debbie Stoessel
Lubec

BENEATH THE SURFACE

The barquentine floats serenely off shore.
I trade blue sky chatter with my new friend
as the launch sputters over the swells.
Landing at a nameless speck of Bahamas coral,
twenty camera-toting Columbuses
claim their piece of the sand.
We lug our scuba tanks to the beach
and strap them to our backs.
We look like two hunchback sea monsters
as we duck-walk past the vacationing speculators
and vanish into the sea.
Instantly, we are transformed
from dull and heavy land creatures
into weightless dolphins. Everything is alive.

Jeffers Larson
Milwaukee

DARK CIRCLE

My little one,
they roasted pigs in Nevada
at a test in the '50s
and on film you can see
people with suits on
in the confused pen
and then on the vast
stretching desert floor
they slip the pigs into
aluminum clothes
holes cut in the sides
and then they are placed
into boxes on stilts
all in a row
and blasted with a nuclear
blast to see how well their
skin survives
a plutonium wind.

So like human skin.
So like suede on my shoes.
So like the split in the
avocado pit I keep above
water to save,
seeing the knotted thing
inside that takes forever
to grow,
seeing my hair in braids,
they wrap around my neck
owning me.

I am a pyromaniac and
my silken strands,
ties for a Coleman
lantern mantle.

Susan Anderson
Aspen

MOUNTAINS

When all else fails
I go to the mountains
There I feel safe
The wind
The rocks
The ice
Are absolutes
Lowest common denominators
That never change
Among them
I am the only variant
If I get hurt
I know who to blame

John S. Allen
Denali

POEM TO RID THE WOODS OF JEREMIAH'S MONSTERS

Because you see monsters
most everywhere these days,
and today on the path out from the cabin,
had to carry big sticks
to fight them,
and cried when the weight slowed you down.

And even though I haven't seen them,
I know they're there too.
So I make this poem
to rid the woods of monsters.

All you monster eyes
that see only to ravage the poor and voiceless
of the world,
Go blind!

Hands that snatch the very ground
from beneath unborn feet,
Go limp!

Teeth that tear at the last thin shreds
of what is green and holy around us,
Fall out!

Hunger that knows no rest,
Eat yourself!

You monsters
that come flickering out of your bombshelter souls
to strike at the life we try and make
in spite of you:
May you become the bad dreams
you push on us and our children
and never wake!

Meantime: KEEP OUT OF THESE WOODS.

You're scaring my friends.

Tim McNulty
Quilcene

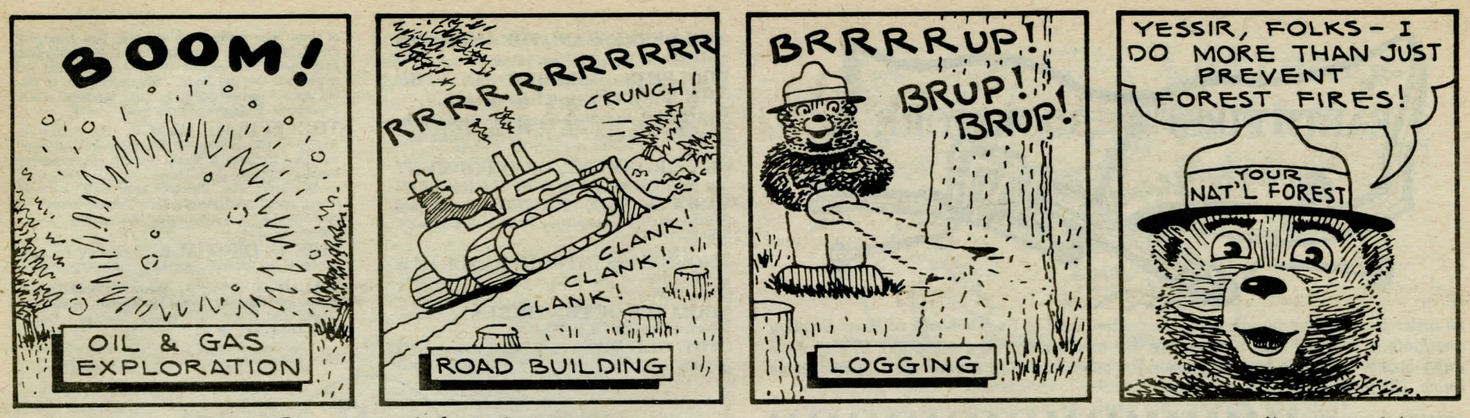
SANCTUARY

I would like to burrow under Earth's soft skin
And make myself a home
In that other world
Beneath my feet
A labyrinth of homes and tunnels
A softer, wiser, innocent world
Where Earth's best children live
Sheltered by their mother, Earth
from summer heat and winter freeze
She keeps them safe
In her soft body, they give birth
In chambers lined with down and grass
Close to her heart

I have no love for
Our giant erections of glass and steel
That claim dominion
Straddling Earth's body
Spurning her love

Precocious children, we,
Delinquent in love
Devoid of compassion
And yet, in death we return
As if in some unknown last rite
We make amends
Like prodigal sons
We come home

Mary de La Valette
Peabody



Should EF!ers Be Organic Farmers?

by Rick Davis

Money is power, and power, as Henry Kissinger so aptly put it, is "the ultimate aphrodisiac" (he ought to know). With all this talk about how money engenders slavery, destruction, and greed, I'm surprised someone hasn't come right out and said it: Let's get rid of money.

Admittedly it isn't that easy. With almost everyone in love with the stuff, anyone who advocates the abolition of money is bound to be dismissed as "unrealistic." After all, how can human society function without money?

The answer to that is: for nearly its entire history humankind has lived without money, and there are even now "primitive" societies which get along well without filthy lucre. In recent years certain tribal peoples in third world countries have refused to be sucked into the money economy. They know that once they give up their dependence upon Nature and begin to live by money, they will have lost their freedom. Ed Abbey is right — we are the slaves. Primitive peoples, who depend only upon Nature, are the last free humans.

Liberating ourselves from the tyranny of money and the city will not be easy; but there is a way, and we should all begin as soon as possible: *Let us withdraw from the money economy to the greatest extent possible.*

We can do this first by becoming organic farmers. I realize that agriculture does not appeal to many EF!ers, but the fact is that, until Nature reduces human population for us (which may not be as far in the future as we think), very few people will be able to support themselves by hunting and gathering. So let us grow our own food instead of buying it with money. And let us never sell food to the city; if you produce too much, return it to the soil.

Second, let us learn to build our own houses and make our own clothes. We will then be able to supply all our basic needs without resorting to money.

But many of you have noticed a problem — even if we depend only upon Nature for our basic needs, we must still pay taxes. A few years ago when bartering services became popular, nation-states demanded that all bartered services be assigned a monetary value and commensurate taxes paid. So we must make as little money as possible, only enough to pay our taxes. By paying the absolute minimum in taxes, and by selling no food to the city, we can help reduce urban populations (which are the biggest exploiters.) Let us build communities of free people who help each other, but who ignore the city.

Money is the most powerful instrument of exploitation. By using money, we buy into the system and invest in destruction. Herein lies the fallacy of "conscientious investment programs" — what can one possibly invest in which is not directly or indirectly destructive or exploitative? Let us not be blinded by greed.

The very possession of money breeds arrogance: "Here is some money — produce food for me so that I do not have to dirty my own hands." "Here is some money — make an air conditioner so that I do not have to perspire in summer." Oh, how we grovel before those who brandish a wad! Our parents taught us that the "magic word" is 'please,' but in reality it is the "magic phrase" — 'Here is some money.'

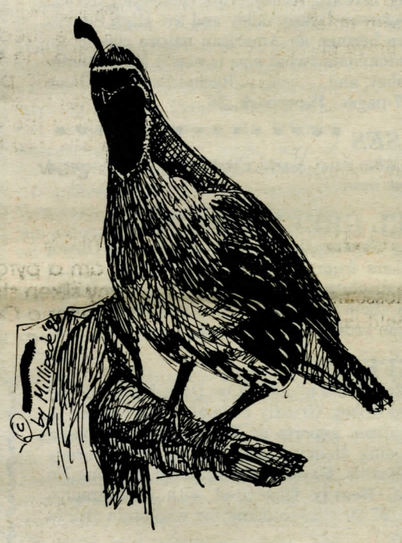
So start your organic garden now, even if you live in the city. A carrot produced in your window box is one less carrot purchased at the store. As soon as possible, get some farmland or (ideally) move to the country.

On a recent boat trip to Okinawa I stopped in three island ports. All three were distinguished by the same feature: a cement company surrounded by hundreds of tetrapods and other products waiting to be bought and used. If no one buys them the companies will go belly up, but if someone does buy them even more of those islands' coastlines will be covered with the monstrosities. This is the money economy in action.

Until we negate the money economy and take steps to liberate ourselves from it we cannot call ourselves free, and we cannot expect to save the planet from destruction.

Negate money and save the planet.

Rick Davis is our EF! contact in Japan.



Inside Agitator

by Lone Wolf Circles

"Just worry about your own backyard," they tell me, piling-up discouragement on me like a wet, heavy snow against my lodge door. It's a cold steel freight-train running over me with its sequential carloads of loneliness, poverty, and their soot-covered misunderstanding.

This *is* my backyard, the "Great American West," from the Big Horns to the land of the Mescalero, from Baja to the Chiricahuas, from those Orca-laden waters off Vancouver to the oppressed flyways of the California Condor. My backyard extends like a well-muscled spine down the Canadian Rockies through the Gila, the Sierra Madre, and the enchanted mountains of the Mayans. A leg stretches down the sacred Andes, dips a toe into the icy waters of the Antarctic.

Yes, but I also know the secrets of the Everglades, and like a ghost I prowl the clearcut Eastern Old-Growth and those vanished Southern Hardwoods.

And more than *that*! My backyard girdles the Earth at the Equator like a hug made of the warm, damp rainforests of Australia and Guatemala, the Caribbean and Malaysia. It's all my backyard, cut up and sold, spit-on and littered, fenced and drilled, entombed in asphalt until only the most astute can hear her plaintive cries for help.

They're wrong! I'm not an "outside agitator." I'm an "inside" agitator, working on the inside of this mechanical beast, this cancer. Fighting it bare-chested, *exposed*... The words, paintings, music and magic that pass through us are the loving balm that heals. We are but a lens for the flow. The words, paintings, music and magic that pass through us are the stone-chipped knives with which we carve at its evil heart, defiantly cut our way out into the light of the great outdoors — the Mesozoic glow of the future-primitive.

MOVING? SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS!

Europe . . .

Continued from page 35

to save complete natural ecosystems in temperate areas.

Karen Coulter is an activist working on the problems of acid rain and old growth destruction.

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A SAND COUNTY ALMANAC By Aldo Leopold. This environmental classic was selected by more reviewers in *Sierra* magazine's recent overview of significant environmental books than any other. Dave Foreman, in that article, called it not only the most important conservation book ever written, but the most important book ever written. Paperback, $9.50

ARCTIC DREAMS By Barry Lopez. $6

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THE SNOW LEOPARD By Peter Matthiessen. $5

NEVER CRY WOLF By Farley Mowat. $4

SEA OF SLAUGHTER By Farley Mowat. A landmark study of the historic and on-going destruction of wildlife (seabirds, other birds, bears, wolves, fish, whales, seals) along the northern Atlantic seaboard of North America. *USA Today* says that "*Sea of Slaughter* deserves to stand with Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* as an outstanding indictment of man's stupidity in alienating himself from nature." Paperback, 437 pages, $11.50 postpaid.

A WHALE FOR THE KILLING By Farley Mowat. $4.50

THE DESERT SMELLS LIKE RAIN "A Naturalist in Papago Indian Country" by Gary Paul Nabhan. $10

GATHERING THE DESERT By Gary Paul Nabhan. $16.50

WILDERNESS AND THE AMERICAN MIND By Roderick Nash $12.50

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ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT & NATURAL RESOURCE CRISIS IN ASIA & THE PACIFIC From SAM (Sahabat Alam Malaysia — Friends of the Earth Malaysia). $16.50

MOUNTAINS WITHOUT HANDRAILS "Reflections on the National Parks" by Joseph L. Sax. $9.50

PARABLE OF THE TRIBES By Andrew Bard Schmookler. $11

THE OLD WAYS Gary Snyder's remarkable volume on reinhabitation. "The wisdom and skill of those who studied the universe first hand, by direct knowledge and experience, for millennia, both inside and outside themselves, is what we might call the Old Ways." Six approaches to the old ways via poetry, myth, and sense of place. Paperback. 96 pages. $5 postpaid.

THE SPIRAL DANCE By Starhawk. Arguably the best book on neo-paganism ever written. Includes a lucid, sensible discussion of Goddess worship as well as visualization exercises, spells, rituals, etc. "This isn't some weird eco-la-la tract," says Dave Foreman, "it's the most important book on religion written since the burning times." Paperback. $11

THIS IS DINOSAUR "Echo Park Country and Its Magic Rivers" edited by Wallace Stegner. $10

WALDEN By Henry David Thoreau with a major introductory essay by Edward Abbey — "Down The River With Henry Thoreau." Paperback, 303 pages, $6.50

More titles to be added.

Austin Lounge Lizards "Creatures From the Black Saloon" $9 postpaid.

Darryl Cherney "I Had To Be Born This Century" $9 postpaid.

Lone Wolf Circles "Full Circle" $10 postpaid.

Lone Wolf Circles "Tierra Primera!" "The Deep Ecology Medicine Shows." $10 postpaid.

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Greg Keeler "Songs of Fishing, Sheep and Guns in Montana" $9 postpaid.

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Bill Oliver "Texas Oasis" $9 postpaid.

Bill Oliver & Friends "Better Things To Do" $9 postpaid.

Cecelia Ostrow "All Life Is Equal" $6.50 postpaid.

Rainforest Information Centre "Nightcap" $10 postpaid.

John Seed, Bahloo & Friends "Earth First!" $9 postpaid.

Jon Sirkis "A Few Less Colors" $9 postpaid.

Walkin' Jim Stoltz "Spirit Is Still On The Run" $9 postpaid.

Walkin' Jim Stoltz "Forever Wild" $10 postpaid.

1988 CALENDARS FROM DREAM GARDEN PRESS

The wilderness calendars from Dream Garden Press are rightfully considered to be the finest nature calendars produced in the world today; moreover, Dream Garden is owned and operated by Spurs Jackson, a long-time supporter of Earth First!. Buy your 1988 calendars (for yourself and for gifts) from Earth First! so the beauty portrayed on your wall can be defended with the money of your purchase.

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Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Big Bend National Park
Western Wilderness
California Wilderness (Wall)
California Wilderness (Engagement)
Utah Wilderness

all calendars $11 postpaid.

CRACKING OF GLEN CANYON DAMN MOVIE

The excellent 10 minute, color-sound 16 mm movie of Earth First! cracking Glen Canyon Damn in 1981 starring Ed Abbey and Johnny Sagebrush. An inspiring and humorous introduction to the Earth First! movement. Rental fee of $25 plus first class postage for showing to groups; no rental fee (postage only) for EF! groups. Note: rental only; not for sale.

CAMO CAPS

We've got a variety of camouflage baseball caps. They come in either woodland or desert camo, 100% cotton or mesh backs. They all have adjustable tabs so one size fits all. The EF! fist logo and the words "EARTH FIRST!" are printed in black. Be sure to specify what style you want or we'll send you what we have most of. **$8 postpaid.**

NON-CAMO CAPS

For you non-militaristic types out there, we now have a non-camouflage cap — the fist and "Earth First!" in black ink on a tan cotton cap with either cloth or mesh back. One size fits all.
$8 postpaid

NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM MAP

The US Geological Survey has produced an excellent large map (40" x 25") of the United States showing designated Wilderness Areas color-coded to the managing agency — Forest Service, Park Service, Fish & Wildlife Service, and BLM. One side features the 48 contiguous states, the other features Alaska and Hawaii and a list of all units of the Wilderness System and their acreage by state. Scale is 1:5,000,000 and the information is current to Jan. 1987. Rivers, state boundaries and major cities are also shown. This map is a must for all wilderfreaks both as a wall decoration and as an information resource. $3.25 postpaid from EF! in Tucson.

BUMPERSTICKERS

Unless otherwise indicated, our bumperstickers are green lettering on long lasting white vinyl and are $1 postpaid. *Starred bumperstickers are multi-colored with designs and are $1.25 postpaid.

AMERICAN WILDERNESS * LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT ALONE
(with red, white & blue US flag)

ANOTHER MORMON ON DRUGS

BACK TO THE PLEISTOCENE
(With "Ned Ludd" logo)

BOYCOTT COORS "BEER"

DAMN THE CORPS NOT RIVERS

DREAM BACK THE BISON SING BACK THE SWAN

EARTH FIRST!

ESCHEW SURPLUSAGE

GET LIVESTOCK OFF OUR PUBLIC LANDS
(red on white — free with SASE)

HAYDUKE LIVES

HUNT COWS - NOT BEARS

HUNTERS: Did a cow get your elk?

I'D RATHER BE MONKEYWRENCHING
(with Monkeywrench/War Club logo)

IF YOUR PECKER WAS AS SMALL AS MINE, YOU'D NEED A MUSCLE WAGON, TOO!
(Important note: This bumpersticker is — hopefully! — not for your own vehicle, but to surreptitiously paste on a jacked-up muscle wagon you find in the local shopping center parking lot. Don't get caught! These stickers are constructed out of cheap paper with permanent adhesive to maximize the difficulty of removing them. Special price: 12 for $5!)

MALTHUS WAS RIGHT

MUIR POWER TO YOU*
(white and black on brown with face of Muir)

NATIVE*
(blue words with blue, green & white globe)

NATURE BATS LAST

NEANDERTHAL AND PROUD
(With "Ned Ludd" logo)

NO SCOPES! SAVE MT. GRAHAM
(with no scopes logo)

OIL AND BEARS DON'T MIX
(with bear logo)

PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT STOP PUBLIC LANDS LIVESTOCK GRAZING

PUBLIC LANDS GRAZING = WELFARE RANCHING

REDNECKS FOR WILDERNESS

RESCUE THE RAINFOREST

RESIST MUCH, OBEY LITTLE

SAVE THE YELLOWSTONE GRIZZLY
(red & brown with bear & no ski area design)

SAVE THE WILD

STOP THE FOREST SERVICE SAVE OUR WILD COUNTRY

STOP CLEARCUTTING

SUBVERT THE DOMINANT PARADIGM

THINK GLOBALLY – ACT LOCALLY

VOTE GREEN

New Bumpersticker

WOLVES! - NOT COWS

T-SHIRTS

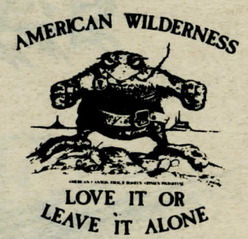
MOTHER GRIZZLY AND CUB

A pretty EF! shirt! A lovely full-color mother grizzly and cub against the rising sun on a light blue shirt. 100% cotton available in short (**$11 postpaid**) or long sleeve (**$13 postpaid**) or 50-50 french cut (**$11 postpaid**). "American Wilderness - Love It Or Leave It Alone" slogan. Art by Susan Van Rooy.

AMERICAN WILDERNESS - LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT ALONE

AMERICAN CANYON FROG

Roger Candee's popular American Canyon Frog (*Croakus abyssus pistoffus*) with the message "AMERICAN WILDERNESS LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT ALONE." A very colorful 4-color design on a grey 100% cotton Beefy-T. **$11 postpaid.**



THE CRACKING OF GLEN CANYON DAMN

Jim Stiles' infamous masterpiece. Keep on praying for that one little precision earthquake! Black design on blue heather 75/25 blend. **$9 postpaid.**

GLEN CANYON DAMN

DEFEND THE WILDERNESS

The monkeywrencher's shirt. Art by Bill Turk. Silver design on black 100% cotton Beefy-T for night work. **$9 postpaid.** Also available in black long sleeved Beefy-T (**$11 postpaid**) or black french-cut 50/50 blend (**$9 postpaid**).

EARTH FIRST!

Fist logo with words "EARTH FIRST! No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth!" in black on green or red 100% cotton Beefy-T or french cut 50/50 blend. **$9 postpaid.** In kid's sizes, too! Only color is green, 50/50 blend, sizes XS - L. **$6 postpaid.** Be sure to specify kid's when you order.

TOOLS

John Zaelit's powerful impression of wilderness defense both old and new — the monkeywrench and stone club crossed. Black design on tan or blue 100% cotton Beefy-T. **$9 postpaid.**

NED LUDD BOOKS

The Ned Ludd Books logo of the Neanderthal with a Monkeywrench and the words "Back to the Pleistocene" and "Ned Ludd Books." Black ink on a tan shirt. $9 postpaid.

EARTH FIRST! EMBROIDERED PATCHES

This embroidered patch features the green fist and the words "EARTH FIRST!" and "No Compromise." Green and black on a white 3" diameter round patch. **$3.50 postpaid.**

HAYDUKE LIVES EMBROIDERED PATCHES

These are black 3 inch diameter round embroidered patches with a red monkeywrench and the words HAYDUKE LIVES in red. **$3.50 postpaid.**

SILENT AGITATORS

Fun to stick anywhere — bar bathrooms, Freddie offices, trail registers... wherever the evil ones need to know that we are about and watching.

EARTH FIRST! FISTS

Green EF! fist logo with words "EARTH FIRST! No compromise in defense of Mother Earth" in red ink. 1⅝ inch diameter circles. **30 for $1.25 postpaid.**

ANTI-GRAZING

A grazing cow and barbed wire with the universal "no" slash, and the words "Free Our Public Lands!" and "Stop Destructive Welfare Ranching End Public Lands Livestock Grazing." 1⅝ inch diameter circles. **30 for $1.25 postpaid.**

COORS

Spread the word on these villains. Black words on green stickers. 2 x 3 inch rectangles. **10 for $1.25 postpaid.**
Coors is Anti-Earth
Coors is Anti-Women
Coors is Anti-Labor
AND IT TASTES AWFUL!
BOYCOTT COORS

FREE OUR PUBLIC LANDS!
P.O. BOX 5784, TUCSON, AZ 85703
STOP DESTRUCTIVE WELFARE RANCHING
END PUBLIC LANDS LIVESTOCK GRAZING

ORDER FORM EARTH FIRST! TRINKETS

Make out checks to "Earth First!" or send cash. Mail to Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703. Please allow three weeks for delivery (contact us if it has not been received in that time). First Class delivery can be arranged. Enter size, color, style, etc. Orders from outside of the United States must be in US currency and include extra for shipping.

We are sometimes temporarily out of certain items while waiting for stock to arrive. We'll send you the rest of your order immediately and the missing item as soon as we receive it. If you are in a hurry, give us a second choice of colors of whatever and when you need it by.

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City, State _____ Zip _____ **OKAY, HERE's**

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